WORST GAMES EVER? NO WAY, SAYS COC, PG 6

Celebrity pg 26

Cattrall loves her life

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OTTAWA | FEBRUARY 17, 2010 | metronews.ca

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Furry friends to travel cargo?

OPINION Airline passengers with pet allergies should not be forced to share cabin space with dogs and cats, says an editorial published yesterday in the Canadian Medical Association Journal.

Last summer, Air Canada changed its policy to allow cats and small dogs to travel in the cabin, aligning itself with a WestJet policy.

"Surveys have shown there's widespread public support for keeping pets off airplanes, in the cabins, and for those reasons we feel strongly this is a public health issue that really needs to be addressed thoughtfully," said Dr. Matthew Stanbrook, a respirologist who co-wrote the editorial.

The CMAJ editorial argues that if the agency doesn't rule in favour of the passengers, then the House of Commons standing committee on health should take up the cause.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News on the Move

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Vancouver Games

Follow Metro as we bring you daily coverage throughout the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

- **Today — World is catching up to Canada on the curling sheet, page 12**

On the web

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SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Maëlle Ricker is wrapped in the Canadian flag after her gold medal win at the women's snowboard cross final at Cypress Mountain in West Vancouver, B.C., yesterday at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Winter Games.

Maëlle storm

Canada bags second gold of Games in snowboard cross

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

Canada cruised to its second gold medal of the 2010 Games yesterday as snowboard-crosser Maëlle Ricker soared to the top of the podium.

Ricker, 31, of West Vancouver, fell only once during qualifying, unlike a significant number of fellow riders who struggled to stay on their boards during a slippery, fog-plagued afternoon.

In the final, she needed only to stay in control of a technically flawless run, opening up a wide lead early that she never relinquished. Deborah Anthonioz of France took the silver medal, followed by Olivia Nobs of Switzerland.

Beaming as she crossed the finish line, Ricker's performance was a bright spot in a day that was otherwise dominated by talk of Vancouver's "Glitch Games" — and the efforts by organizers to make sure the sobriquet doesn't stick.

From alpine weather aggravations to cancelled tickets to a controversy over the Olympic cauldron, organizers have been plagued by everything from unco-operative snow conditions on the mountains to ice-resurfacing machines that do more damage than good.

Adding to the grief was trouble at the starting line for the biathlon pursuit races taking place in the Callaghan Valley, where timing errors threw off the results for both Jean-Philippe LeGuellec of Quebec City and Sweden's Anna Carin Olofsson-Zidek.

One welcome distraction was the long-awaited debut of Canada's men's hockey team, which took to the ice against Norway at Canada Hockey Place with Vancouver Canucks netminder Roberto Luongo in goal and a frenzied sellout crowd in the stands. Team Canada blanked Norway 8-0.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SEE GAME COVERAGE, PAGE 12

Flaherty cracks down, tightens mortgage rules

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

OWNERSHIP Ottawa's housing market will continue to do well, despite new mortgage rules to crack down on speculators and discourage homeowners from taking on too much debt yesterday.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said yesterday that by making borrowers meet stiffer criteria to take out mortgages, he was responding to growing concerns that Canada's housing market was overheating.

But for the majority of first-time homebuyers, this won't pose a problem, a local expert said.

Even with the new law, Ottawa's housing market will continue to do well and homebuyers won't be affected, said Lori Melanson, a mortgage agent with Capital Mortgages Inc.

Flaherty

"There's no compelling evidence of a housing bubble, but we're taking proactive, prudent, measured and cautious steps ... to help prevent a housing bubble," Flaherty said yesterday.

Flaherty said all borrowers will need to meet stiffer criteria to take out mortgages, and that the government will also limit the amount Canadians can borrow on their homes from the current 95 per cent to 90 per cent.

And to discourage speculation, prospective homebuyers who want to purchase a property for rental purposes will have to come up with a 20 per cent down payment, instead of the current five.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

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News in brief

CHARGES The Ottawa police sexual assault/child abuse unit has charged a city man after a 29-year-old woman was inappropriately touched while riding an OC Transpo bus on Rideau Street between downtown and the Blair Road transit station last June. Police arrested Mohhamad Abdul Manaf, 53, yesterday and charged him with one count of sexual assault. He was released with conditions and appears in court March 17.

CIVIC AWARDS Nominations have opened for the city's 2010 Civic Appreciation Awards. The program recognizes individuals, groups and organizations through the Citizen of the Year Awards, the Brian Kilrea Award for excellence in coaching in amateur sports and the Distinguished Civic Award for arts and culture, recreation and sports, education and training, environment, health, heritage, humanitarianism, rural and agriculture and community activism. Nomination deadline is March 26. METRO OTTAWA

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What's online today.

Video Canadian halfpiper Jeff Batchelor breaks down killer tricks, with the help of an action figure at **metronews.ca/canada**

Lotteries

Ontario Pick 3: 509; **Ontario Pick 4:** 9574
Encore: 9355242
Daily Keno: 1, 7, 8, 13, 15, 21, 27, 32, 33, 37, 41, 42, 44, 47, 48, 52, 58, 59, 64, 65.
These results are not official.

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Heritage site seeks tales of capital 'hoods

Put memories online: Museum

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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The first recorded game of something resembling hockey played in Ottawa took place on the Rideau River south of Green Island on Christmas Day in 1852.

The Scots of New Edinburgh beat the Sassenachs of Bytown 2–1, earning silver medals for their efforts. One of those medals is on display at the Bytown Museum.

Sports and recreation heritage stretches back as long as the history of the city and it was celebrated at Heritage Day festivities at city hall yesterday.

"Sports and recreation in Ottawa is a part of its rich heritage," said deputy mayor Georges Bédard. "To this day, communities both large and small possess a legacy of sports and recreation facilities which continue to serve Canadians."

The story of Ottawa's first hockey game and many others can be found on Bytown Museum's CapitalNeighbourhoods.ca website, which launched yesterday. The website encourages people to share their memories on an interactive map of the seven original villages that formed Ottawa, said Mike Steinhauer, director of the Bytown Museum. Eventually, they would like to expand to the rest of the city.

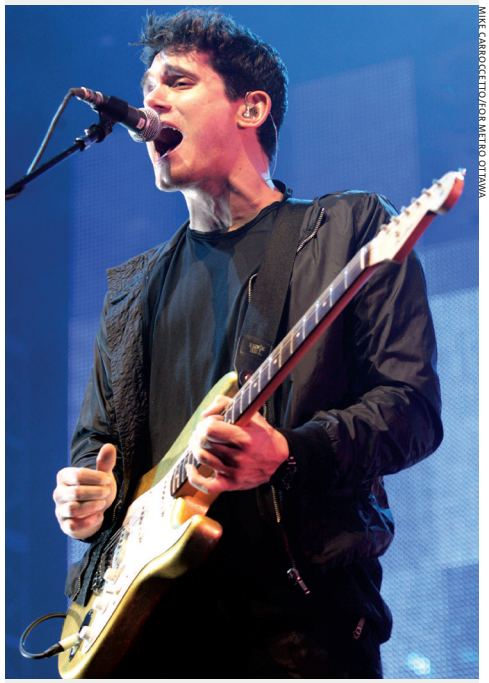
Those stories do not necessarily need to have happened a long time ago, said Steinhauer.

"We look at newer stories also, like Nate's Diner on Rideau Street. That's a historic establishment that has been frequented by locals and politicians for years," he said. "We're losing that soon because it's going to be torn down to build condos. It's those kinds of stories that may not be historical until it's gone."

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

Dressed as Lt. Henry Pooley of the Royal Engineers, Steve Dezort, program co-ordinator at the Bytown Museum, visits a link telling the story of the first recorded inter-village shinny game in Ottawa on the museum's CapitalNeighbourhoods.ca website, which was launched yesterday on Heritage Day.

Scotiabank Place **Mayer studies**



MIKE CARROCCETTO/FOR METRO OTTAWA

John Mayer performs at Scotiabank Place during his Battle Studies world tour last night. The guitarist, vocalist and songwriter has earned seven Grammy Awards and sold nearly 12.5 million albums worldwide.

Committee decides against audit of city phone expenses

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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FINANCE Having Ottawa's auditor general examine the city's employee mobile telecommunications strategy would be a waste of time, the city's finance committee decided yesterday.

"If we have to be concerned that our staff are not serving us well with regard to the proper use of BlackBerrys and cellphones ... then we've got bigger fish to fry than worry about a million dollars," said Barrhaven Coun. Jan Harder.

According to a committee report, the city had 2,856 active phones that had total airtime expenditures of $1,500,101.24 for 2009 — an average of $43.77 per month per device.

While that's not chump change, Harder said she's comfortable that it is money well spent, when it comes to ensuring that city managers are able to effectively communicate with employees, councillors and the public.

Winterlude spins its magic for merchants

2010 Winterlude

ANDREW SZTEIN
for Metro Ottawa

TOURISM For 500 businesses and 250 storefronts in the ByWard Market, Winterlude provides a shot in the arm for what would normally be a slower time of year.

Thanks to the influx of tourists brought in by the Winterlude festivities and the opening of the Rideau Canal Skateway, businesses in the market see a "really important spike," said Jasna Jennings, executive director of the ByWard Market Business Improvement Area.

"Winterlude is typically one of those busy times of year that the businesses look to make their year," said Jennings.

Nearly all the hotels in the market and surrounding area are completely sold out of rooms during the event, said Jantine Van Kregten, director of communications for Ottawa Tourism. "The Chateau Laurier has been sold out for a while, the Westin is full, the Marriott is full, the Lord Elgin is full."

According to the National Capital Commission, 650,000 people attend Winterlude annually, one-third of whom are from out of town.

"Winterlude does have an appeal that stretches beyond our borders. Last weekend, we welcomed groups from Japan, Korea, Germany, the U.K. and Mexico," Van Kregten said.

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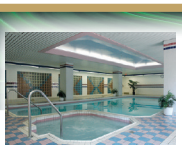

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Cop shop hosts open house

Ottawa police are inviting the public to tour their new west division patrol station this Saturday. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., attendees can take a guided tour, view the service's green car, participate in a child print program, speak to officers from the recruitment team, and enjoy refreshments at 211 Huntmar Dr. METRO OTTAWA

'He was a wonderful kid ... I miss him'

Mother hopes vigil will spark tips in son's six-year-old murder case

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If he were alive today, Douglas Stewart would have been 25 years old. His mother, Linda Beland, wonders what her son would be like as a young man.

"He was a wonderful kid," said Beland of Stewart, who was 19 when he was found bludgeoned to death with a tire iron in his 15th floor apartment at 1240 Donald St. on Feb. 18, 2004.

"He loved children and animals and sports. He was a very soft person, with the biggest heart you can imagine.

"Nothing is moving. I understand it's the system, but the system sucks. It's affecting us terribly. It's been six years and it feels like it's just happened. We need closure."
Linda Beland, mother of Douglas Stewart

"I miss him terribly."

Beland is hopeful that even after six years, the case will still be solved. To mark the anniversary of Stewart's death, and to keep the case at the top of the public's minds, she's holding a vigil at 7 p.m. tomorrow at La Grotte de Lourde on Montfort Street.

"Maybe someone who knows something will hear about the case and come forward," she said.

She calls the Ottawa police regularly, and while they are sympathetic, they tell her nothing is new, she said.

"Nothing is moving," she said. "I understand it's the system, but the system sucks. It's affecting us terribly. It's been six years and it feels like it's just happened. We need closure. The family is falling apart.

"We need to know who did it and why."

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Guilty man not entrapped: Ruling
A judge has ruled that a man found guilty of terror offences as part of the so-called Toronto 18 was not entrapped. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Premier OK's raw milk verdict appeal

Premier Dalton McGuinty says the province is right to appeal a verdict in favour of raw milk crusader Michael Schmidt because of ongoing public health concerns. McGuinty says there's an "overwhelming consensus" among medical experts that raw milk presents real health risks and that means it's worth asking a higher court to take a look at the case.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

POLITICS A new poll suggests Conservatives and Liberals are locked in a tug-of-war for voter support. The Canadian Press Harris-Decima survey gives the Tories a slight edge at 32 per cent to the Liberals' 30 per cent. The NDP was at 16 per cent and the Greens at 10 per cent while the Bloc Quebecois was dominant in Quebec with 41 per cent. The results suggest Tory support has stabilized while the Liberals have dipped two points since the end of January. The telephone survey of just over 4,000 Canadians was conducted Feb. 4-14.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Fake news pundit Stephen Colbert arrives in B.C. to take aim at Canadian "syrup-suckers." Scan this code for the story.

Worst Games ever? Not so, says COC

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

Olympic officials are dismissing suggestions from British media that the Vancouver Olympics are among the worst Games in history.

Earlier this week Britain's Guardian newspaper carried a story on its website with the headline: "Vancouver Games continue downhill slide from disaster to calamity."

The Games opened on the same day that a Georgian luger was killed in a training accident while weather issues have forced delays and cancellations in Whistler and Cypress. Even ice resurfacers have broken down at the Richmond speedskating oval.

Game officials were also forced to close the general admission section of the snowboarding venue because wet weather rendered the area unsafe. There have also been transportation issues.

But International Olympic Committee spokesman Mark Adams says he believes the Games have been very well organized, and a VANOC spokesman says they are dealing with cards they've been dealt.

Canadian Olympic Committee president Michael Chambers agrees that these are still great Games despite the problems.

Chambers says Vancouver residents and Canadians in general have embraced the Olympics and media critics are not experiencing the same Games as he is.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cancellations

- Another day, another cancellation on Cypress Mountain. More Olympic standing room tickets for have been cancelled as rain continues to turn the troubled venue into a muddy mess.

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fog shrouds the venue and heavy rain falls as spectators arrive for the women's snowboard cross competition at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Winter Games at Cypress Mountain in West Vancouver, B.C., yesterday. The start of qualifying had been delayed by fog.

Study reports record debt levels

A new study says the average household debt in Canada has climbed to $96,000 — or 145 per cent of average income. THE CANADIAN PRESS

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper speaks to a wounded man during his recent two-day visit to Haiti.

Harper praises planes

PM credits new C-17s for success in Haiti efforts

During a tour of Haitian disaster zones, Prime Minister Stephen Harper touted his government's military purchases and cited current relief efforts as evidence his approach worked.

The prime minister used an address to soldiers in the town of Leogane, vast swaths of which were reduced to rubble a month ago, to stress his refurbishment of the military.

He singled out the purchase of C-17 transport planes for particular praise, saying those new vehicles helped fly troops and supplies to Haiti almost immediately.

"The entire planet has been able to witness that Canada is now a major actor when it's time to intervene in natural disasters," Harper said in yesterday's speech.

"Everyone saw that Canada has the equipment, the know-how, the capacity, and the personnel to intervene quickly and efficiently.

"And Canada now has a considerable advantage — a fleet of C-17s. Thanks to this multi-purpose airplane, Canada no longer has to hitch-hike its way to foreign deployments."

He went on to address his critics, saying some of them had argued that purchasing those cargo planes as inconsistent with Canada's "soft-power needs." Harper said that his government bought them "for the hard-power requirements of today's world."

At least one military analyst agreed the new C-17s played a key role in the speedy Haiti deployment.

Alec Morrison, a research fellow at Dalhousie University's Centre for Foreign Policy Studies, said the C-17 was central to Canada's fast response.

"Canada wouldn't have been able to put the products and the boots on the ground in Haiti and in the time that it did without the C-17," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada to follow up on African aid

AID Canada won't commit to more African aid until it is satisfied the $2 billion already delivered has not been wasted, The Canadian Press has learned.

Canada has fulfilled its aid promises to Africa and now wants to use its G8 chairmanship to ensure accountability for the money already spent, Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon said in an interview.

"Canada wants to make sure the commitments that have already been taken previously are all met," said Cannon, who recently returned from a summit in Ethiopia.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pension showdown brews

BUDGET On the eve of a critical meeting with Treasury Board president Stockwell Day, the head of one of Canada's largest public-sector unions said yesterday he's worried the federal government is poised to take an axe to pensions.

John Gordon, president of the Public Service Alliance of Canada, said various think-tanks have recently taken aim at public sector pensions, saying they are too rich for taxpayers.

But Ottawa has said nothing as it prepares to deliver a budget March 4.

The silence has left public servants fretting about the future as the Conservatives search for ways to reduce a massive deficit that is expected to swell to $56 billion this year.

Gordon, in Halifax to meet with union members, is scheduled to meet Day today.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

MAFIA Montreal police say a turf war between mobs in Montreal and Toronto might be erupting.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Iraq remains most at risk for terrorism: Report

Iraq is the country most at risk from terrorist attacks for the second straight year, according to a ranking by global analysts Maplecroft, while Thailand has joined the nine countries most in danger for the first time. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Clinton: Iran nuke would trigger arms race

If Iran gets a nuclear weapon it could trigger a nuclear arms race in the Middle East, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said yesterday. Clinton, speaking at a women's college in Saudi Arabia said that Iran's secret construction of a uranium enrichment facility was an example of how Iran had violated its obligations to not pursue nuclear weapons.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

White House scores win with Taliban capture

Former U.S. vice-president Dick Cheney has been unrelenting in his criticism of the Obama administration's attempts to fight terror, accusing the White House once again recently of weaknesses that are leaving America vulnerable to another large-scale terrorist attack.

And yet news emerging yesterday undoubtedly left Cheney and his congressional Republican supporters red-faced. Just two days after Cheney levelled his most recent assault, it was reported that the Taliban's top military commander was captured more than a week ago in a secret joint operation by Pakistani and U.S. intelligence forces.

Afghanistan's Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar is considered the most significant Taliban figure to be detained since the war in Afghanistan began in 2001. He is ranked second in importance only to Mullah Muhammad Omar, who founded the Taliban and was a close associate of Osama bin Laden's before 9-11. From a political perspective, the timing of Baradar's capture couldn't have been sweeter for the White House, which has long been vexed by Cheney's barbs.

On Sunday, the former vice-president criticized the administration's policy of seeking out and killing key terrorists, saying such an approach means no intelligence can be extracted from them. Vice-President Joe Biden was dispatched by the White House to dispute Cheney during his own appearances on the Sunday morning talk-show circuit. Biden called his predecessor "factually, substantively wrong" in his criticisms.

"Dick Cheney's a fine fellow, but he is not entitled to rewrite history without it being challenged," Biden said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bin Laden close?

- Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar's capture has led some to speculate whether Osama bin Laden himself could be within reach more than eight years after the 9-11 mastermind famously escaped U.S. forces in the Afghan mountains at Tora Bora in December 2001.

Britain **Pancake Tuesday**

LEFTERIS PITARAKIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Child runners race their pancakes through the town of Olney, England, during a pancake race yesterday. Olney's famous race is run every Shrove Tuesday, dating back to 1445.

News in brief

AFGHANISTAN U.S. Marines moving by land linked up yesterday with American units that have faced constant Taliban attack in the four days since they were dropped by helicopter into Marjah in southern Afghanistan. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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U.K. journalist claims he once mercy-killed lover

LONDON A veteran British TV reporter claimed on the air yesterday that he had used a pillow years ago to smother a lover who was dying of AIDS, adding a startling contribution to the country's debate on mercy killing.

The Nottinghamshire Police said it would investigate Ray Gosling's claim. Under British law, assisting a suicide is punishable by up to 14 years in prison.

Gosling told a BBC TV program that he and the unidentified man had made a pact.

"I killed someone once ... He was a young chap, he'd been my lover and he got AIDS," Gosling said in the interview. "He was in terrible, terrible pain. I said to the doctor, 'Leave me just for a bit' and he went away. I picked up the pillow and smothered him until he was dead."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SCANLIFE

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Comment

Priceless hug washes away early woes

TheWestView

What do you think of us so far? Are these Vancouver Olympics worth the $6-billion investment? Or is gold fever a fatal illness from which we will never recover?

Many think the Games were cursed before they even started, with the death of the young Olympian from Georgia.

The weather hasn't helped. This could be the warmest winter on record in a place where winter happens to people on the other side of the mountains.

Meanwhile, the world is watching. The British media seem particularly interested, maybe because they're next (ha ha!) — the BBC has sent more journalists than Olympians to Vancouver — and the whole gang appears to be suffering from an epidemic of rain-induced wedgies in its winter woolies.

The Guardian's golf correspondent, Lawrence Donegan, no doubt annoyed he was sent to Vancouver instead of California to cover the PGA Tour, should be awarded a gold medal for grumpiness. His latest piece is headlined: "Vancouver Games continue downhill slide from disaster to calamity."

What if we paid $6 billion for the Olympics and all we got was a rude message from Lawrence Donegan?

Still, as the Games melt in the balmy temperatures, there's an upside to the weather. It's warmer than New Orleans during Mardi Gras! The world's media are knocking themselves out taking pictures of cherry blossoms and daffodils! Vancouver, your real-estate values are safe!

VANCOUVER 2010Games

Maybe the new Canadian "Own the Podium" 'tude is freaking out the peanut gallery. NBC keeps talking about it ... with grudging admiration. It's the sort of thing Americans like to do — and if you crash, so what? At least you tried. The U.K. (which despite its many scribes has no medals), seems affronted by this unseemly display of colonial uppityness.

But fear not. The Games have been saved by a sweet young kid named Alex Bilodeau. Alex won Canada's first gold medal in the mogul cross, which is skiing on speed bumps while hurtling down the side of a cliff. Looks like fun.

Alex is a francophone from Rosemère, Que., which has stopped the Other Solitude from bitching about the lack of a French presence at these Games. Most important, he's the nicest kid in the world, which makes that "Own the Podium" hubris seem like the hunting behaviour of a kitten: Ferocious but harmless.

You could argue that the picture of Alex giving brother Frederic, who has cerebral palsy, a victory hug, is not worth $6 billion. And you'd be right. It's not. It's priceless.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: What is your favourite Winter Olympic sport to watch?

Mylaine Gauvreau
Ottawa
A: Aerial skiing, because they do tricks.

Angela Lees
Ottawa
A: I like the moguls, because of the tricks they do off the ramp. And I like them more since we won gold.

Marie-Eve Theriault
Ottawa
A: Snowboarding, for the tricks they can do.

Dimitri Jager
Switzerland
A: Because I play hockey, I'll have to go with that. But I don't like the fighting here. In Switzerland, we don't fight at all.

Holly Singer
Calgary
A: Downhill skiing, because of the difficulty.

Alan Colley
Toronto
A: I'd say snowboarding. I taught snowboarding in Whistler for a year. I helped train with aboriginal youth.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Tell us your views by email to ottawaletters@metronews.ca or comment on metronews.ca or on Twitter @metroottawa
Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Profits drop at L'Oreal

L'Oreal shares fell yesterday after the cosmetics company reported an eight per cent drop in profit last year due to weaker demand amid the economic downturn. The Paris-based company said full-year profit was $2.46 billion US, down from US$268 billion the year before. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

DOLLAR	GAS	OIL	TSX
US 95.83¢	US $5.31	US $77.01	11,586.37
US .5¢	US 15.8¢	US 2.88¢	116.56

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Toyota woes continue

U.S. government wants key documents

The U.S. Transportation Department demanded documents related to Toyota's massive recalls in the United States yesterday to find out if the automaker acted swiftly enough.

Toyota, meanwhile, said it will idle production temporarily at Texas and Kentucky plants over concerns the recalls could lead to big stockpiles of unsold vehicles.

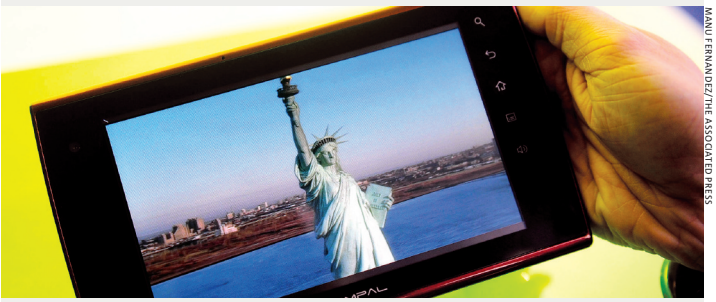
Legal documents demanded yesterday that Toyota tell the government when and how the company learned of the safety defects in millions of vehicles over the entrapment of gas pedals by floor mats, and sticky accelerators. The company must respond within 30-60 days.

The intensifying government investigation of Toyota and production halts at its assembly plants represented another sign of the ripple effect the recall of 8.5 million vehicles has had on the world's number one automaker.

Toyota said it was halting production temporarily in San Antonio, Texas, and Georgetown, Ky.,

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tablet More iPad competition



MANU FERNANDEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The new N98 tablet computer by Nvidia was on show at the Mobile World congress in Barcelona, Spain, yesterday.

Transport drives manufacturing sales up

ECONOMY Manufacturing sales rose 1.6 per cent in December to $43 billion, largely on the strength of sales in transportation equipment.

Statistics Canada reports it was the sixth increase in overall manufacturing sales in seven months and the highest level since December 2008.

The agency says aerospace products and parts, motor vehicles and petroleum and coal products also recorded significant gains.

Constant-dollar manufacturing sales increased 2.1 per cent in December as sales advanced in 11 of the 21 manufacturing industries. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Timminco plans Iceland plant

EXPANSION Timminco Ltd. is looking to boost its silicon metal capacity with a new plant in Iceland operating on geo-thermal power, the Toronto-based company announced yesterday.

The new plant would have an annual production capacity of 50,000 tonnes of silicon metal, which would complement existing capacity at the Timminco plant in Becancour, Que.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ScanLife

Texas governor disputes U.S. agency's ruling about the harmful effects of greenhouse gas emissions. Scan this code for the story.

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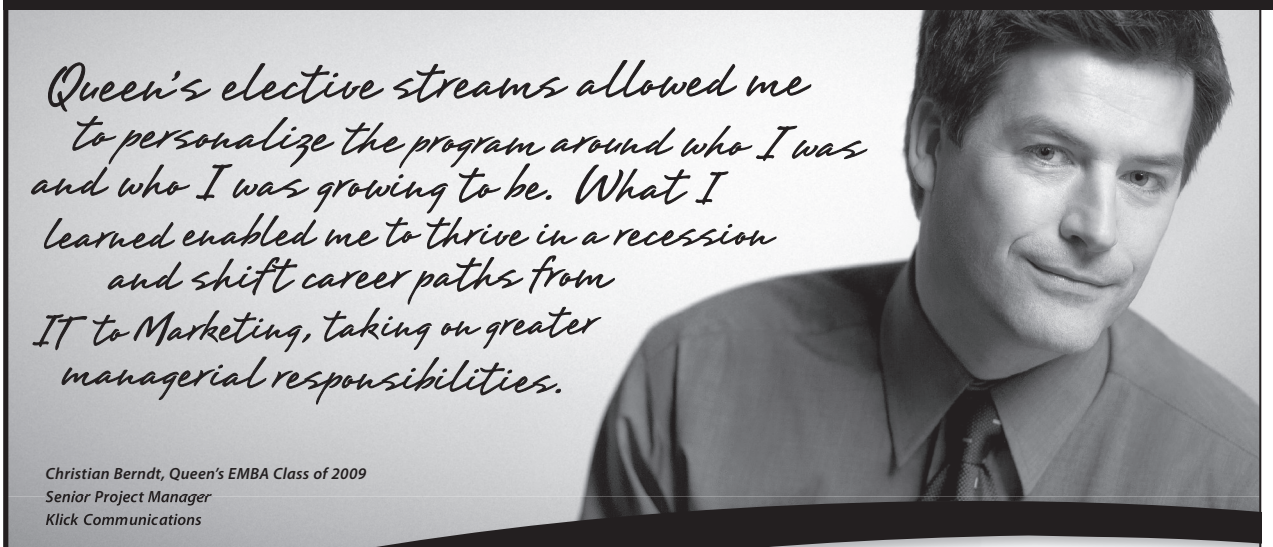

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Sanchez to have surgery today
New York Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez is scheduled to have surgery today to repair the patella ligament in his left knee. Sanchez, who led New York to the AFC title game as a rookie, should be completely healthy by the start of training camp in July. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Camby traded to Blazers

The Portland Trail Blazers are picking up needed help on the interior, acquiring Marcus Camby, left, from the Los Angeles Clippers in exchange for guard Steve Blake and forward Travis Outlaw. The deal also includes cash going to the Clippers.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

SOCCER Wayne Rooney scored twice in the second half as Manchester United came back from a goal down to beat AC Milan 3-2 in the Champions League last night. Ronaldinho gave Milan an early lead when he volleyed in David Beckham's free kick, but Paul Scholes brought United level before halftime in the first leg match of the competition's last 16.

NBA Denver Nuggets coach George Karl says he has been diagnosed with neck and throat cancer but was told it is treatable. Karl says he started a six-week treatment that includes chemotherapy yesterday, and the treatment could cause him to miss games and practices.

NFL The NFL Players Association accused the league yesterday of not sharing as much supplemental revenue with its lower-income teams as it is supposed to.

NFL Sebastian Janikowski and the Oakland Raiders agreed on a $16-million US, four-year deal yesterday that is the richest contract for a kicker in NFL history. Janikowski will be guaranteed $9 million in the deal, a person familiar with the contract said on condition of anonymity because the team has not announced the signing.

NBA Indiana Pacers centre Jeff Foster will miss the rest of the season after undergoing what the team calls successful back surgery. The team says the procedure was done yesterday at the Indiana Orthopedic Hospital. Foster is expected to make a full recovery and be ready for training camp this fall.

FIELD HOCKEY Australia and New Zealand will send teams to the men's field hockey World Cup in New Delhi this month despite a reported threat from an al-Qaida-linked organization against competitors in sporting events in India. METRO NEW SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
New Jersey 103 Charlotte 94
Miami 105 Philadelphia 78
Detroit 108 Minnesota 85
Chicago 118 New York 85
Phoenix 109 Memphis 95
Oklahoma City 99 Dallas 86
Utah 104 Houston 95
L.A. Clippers at Portland
Boston at Sacramento
Golden State at L.A. Lakers

TODAY'S GAMES
Memphis at Toronto, 7 p.m.
San Antonio at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Washington, 7 p.m.
Miami at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Utah at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Dallas, 9 p.m.
Sacramento at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Atlanta at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Wives help Jays pitchers recover

It wasn't a sense of duty that led both Shaun Marcum and Dustin McGowan to credit their wives with having the biggest influence on their respective comebacks to the Jays' starting rotation.

m.metronews.ca
SCANLIFE
Cardinals players anticipate the debut of MLB's most controversial hitting coach, Mark McGwire. Scan this code for the story.

Both were simply admitting the truth. No one knows the two right-handers better than their better halves, and when it came to facing career threatening surgeries at a young age, no one was better equipped to guide them through it.

"My wife told me every day that things would get better, that it would be all right," McGowan said in Dunedin, Fla., yesterday as several big leaguers and prospects continued workouts in advance of Monday's mandatory reporting date for pitchers and catchers.

McGowan arguably needed to hear that more than Marcum, largely because his injury — a torn labrum in his right shoulder — can spell the end of the line for a pitcher.

McGowan last pitched in the major leagues in July 2008. McGowan began throwing again last May, but reports on his progress were never good. About a year after his shoulder surgery, doctors discovered cartilage damage in his knee and prepared him for another operation.

Six weeks later, he began throwing again, but further complications with the knee prompted doctors to shut him down again last October.

Marcum was also in the middle of his rehab from elbow surgery. He had not pitched in the big leagues since May 2008, and he wasn't entirely prepared mentally to push himself through the rehab.

The problem was his tendency to eat too much junk food. In general, he didn't eat right, and his wife, Stephanie — who has a degree and a teaching job in nutrition — tried to change his habits.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DAVE SANDFORD/GETTY IMAGES

Blue Jay Shaun Marcum pitches against the Boston Red Sox at Toronto's home opener at the Rogers Centre on April 4, 2008.

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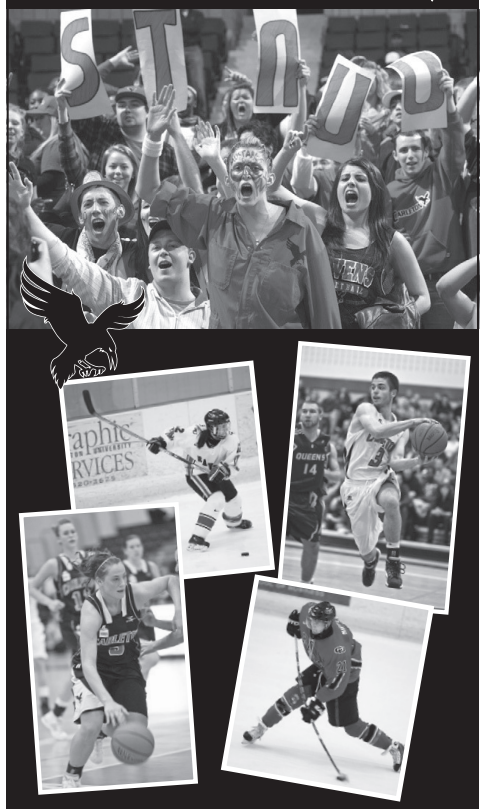
RAVENS TAKE FLIGHT IN PLAYOFFS



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Time error costs biathlete

There was a crucial timing error yesterday for Swedish biathlete Anna Carin Olofsson-Zidek as timekeepers held her back 14 seconds longer than they should have at the start of the race. Olofsson-Zidek finished sixth. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver Games

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

U.S. downs Switzerland

HOCKEY The youthful U.S. men's hockey team opened the Olympic tournament yesterday with a 3-1 win over Switzerland.

Bobby Ryan scored late in the first period, and David Backes and Ryan Malone added goals in the second to help the United States avoid a repeat of an opening-game letdown.

During the 2006 Turin Games, the Americans began with a 3-3 tie against Latvia and never challenged for a medal.

"Once I scored, I was able to settle down and come back into my own a little bit," Ryan said.

"You definitely don't want to come from behind early. To get the lead, I think it settled the game down quite a bit for us."

Ryan Miller, the Buffalo Sabres goalie considered the key to the U.S. chances to reach the medals podium, made 14 saves.

The Americans have their youngest collection of players since the NHL began supplying talent for the Winter Olympics in 1998.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Domination nation

Canada cruises to 8-0 win over Norway in opener

Team Canada delivered a crowd-pleasing performance after stepping on to the biggest stage in international hockey.

Hometown hero Roberto Luongo stopped all 15 shots he faced and Canada showed off a variety of offensive weapons last night, kicking off the long-awaited Olympic tournament with an 8-0 victory over Norway at Canada Hockey Place, better known as GM Place when the Olympics are not in town.

Jarome Iginla had a hat trick, Dany Heatley scored twice while Mike Richards, Ryan Getzlaf and Corey Perry each added singles for a young Canadian team that looked fairly composed after skating into the spotlight for the first time.

The anticipation had been building for Canadian hockey fans since the country crashed out of the Turin Olympics four years ago with a disastrous seventh-place finish, the worst ever in history. It was worth the wait.

Even though the roof didn't come off Canada Hockey Place, as Norwegian captain Tommy Jakobsen predicted it might, the crowd roared throughout the game and alternated between chants of "Go Canada Go!" and "Let's Go Canada!"

The majority of fans showed up in Team Canada jerseys, painting the inside of the arena a patriotic red and white.

"There was much more electricity (than normal). This is big for Canada," said Luongo.

It was a marvellous platform for Canadian hockey — even though the Norwegians didn't play the part of willing victim early on. The underdogs showed plenty of pluck in the first period, clogging the neutral zone and collapsing around goalie Pal Grotnes to keep Canada from scoring.

"It was a great atmosphere," said Sidney Crosby. "It's a lot of fun to be here in Canada and I thought we used it to our advantage."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

Canada's Chris Pronger celebrates last night after teammate Dany Heatley scored a goal in the second period against Norway during one of the Olympic men's hockey games.

What to watch today

TV Highlights

Noon: Women's curling
Japan vs. Canada (Sportsnet).

2 p.m.: Alpine skiing
Women's downhill gold medal (CTV).

3:30 p.m.: Cross-country skiing
Men's and women's individual sprint classic gold medals (Sportsnet).

5:30 p.m.: Women's hockey
Canada vs. Sweden (TSN).

7 p.m.: Long-track speedskating
Men's 1,000m gold medal (CTV).

8 p.m.: Men's hockey
Sweden vs. Germany (TSN)

8 p.m.: Short-track speedskating
Including women's 500m gold medal (Sportsnet).

9:15 p.m.: Luge
Doubles gold medal (OLN).

10:15 p.m.: Women's hockey
Slovakia vs. Switzerland (Sportsnet)

10:15 p.m.: Snowboarding
Men's halfpipe gold medal (CTV).

TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

METRO HOCKEY POOL STANDINGS*

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NAME	LOCATION	GP	G	A	PTS
1. Brian B	A, CA	887	376	525	901
2. Jonathon Gremsperger	B, CA	887	376	517	893
3. Shawn Tschritter	A, CA	882	364	524	888
4. Stephanie Warren	N, CA	864	369	516	885
5. Christian Gagnon	N, CA	839	355	524	879
6. Kyle Turk	N, CA	890	370	503	873
7. Dennis MacDougall	N, CA	860	360	511	871
8. Cole Warren	N, CA	872	330	536	866
9. Bernie Horton	O, CA	826	359	505	864
10. Joanne Doiron	N, CA	832	349	513	862
11. Blaine Schlechter	A, CA	852	350	509	859
12. Jordan Camponi	A, CA	838	336	521	857
13. Jean-Paul Osborne	Q, CA	877	350	505	855
14. Grant Greenfield	A, CA	849	380	474	854
15. Darrick Bowden	N, CA	848	338	513	851

* Results exclude Quebec

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Curling nearing a 'crossroads': Martin

CHANGE Kevin Martin doesn't like what he sees on the world curling horizon. Canada is losing its grip on the sport and it may be partially to blame itself.

"I think we're getting to the crossroads ... We've basically been in charge of the game for a long time. I see that clearly changing," said Martin, who will skip for Canada at the Vancouver Olympics.

The arrival of curling as a full-fledged Olympic sport in 1998 has shone a spotlight on curling. Countries like China and Japan embraced the sport.

And Canadian coaches have helped spread the word.

Montreal's Dan Rafael has coached both the Chinese men and women's national teams. In 2008, the Chinese women were runners-up at the world championship and the same foursome improved to capture gold last year.

At last year's world men's championship in Moncton, China, the United States, France, Japan and Switzerland all had prominent Canadian curlers or coaches as advisers.

Canadian Olympic champion Russ Howard has worked with the Swiss men's team. And last summer, former Alberta champion Renée Sonnenberg signed on as team leader for the Danish women's Olympic team.

The fact the Canadian experience is being exported to other nations doesn't sit well with Calgary's Cheryl Bernard.

"I think they've taken our experience, taken our coaches and it's a full-time job, which none of us can do," she said.

"They're paying all our coaches and they're coming here and living here."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kevin Martin

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To view a more extensive listings of today's televised Olympic events, scan this code.

VANCOUVER GAMES

Medal Count

NATION				TOTAL
Switzerland	3	0	1	4
Germany	2	3	1	6
U.S.	2	2	4	8
Canada	2	2	1	5
France	2	1	4	7
South Korea	2	1	0	3
Sweden	2	0	0	2
China	1	1	0	2
Slovakia	1	1	0	2

On the web

- Up-to-date medal standings and results
- Metro-Blenz News Squad on-the-ground blog

Visit metronews.ca for more Games coverage.

Quebec bid for 2022?
Quebec Premier Jean Charest told an Olympic news conference he'd like to see the 2022 Winter Olympics in Quebec City. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ricker's gold

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

The sun finally came out at Cypress Mountain yesterday — in more ways than one — when Whistler, B.C.,'s Maëlle Ricker nabbed a gold medal in women's snowboard cross, charging across the finish line under a bright blue sky.

It was a vastly different outcome from four years ago, when she barely missed the bronze medal in the 2006 Games.

"Coming home from Torino, I was already thinking about what I was going to do to perform today," a beaming Ricker said after her race. "(That) was a huge motivating factor to work that much (harder)."

Ricker had a shaky start in the first qualifying race when she fell on the slushy run and came in 15th of 24 competitors, many of whom struggled to get down the hill in the thick fog.

But she plowed through her second qualifying run and from there seemed unstoppable, getting so far ahead of her competitors in the first heat of the finals that they weren't even in sight when she crossed the finish line.

"That first run was a disaster, but I went back up (and) refocused," said Ricker.

By the last heat, the fog had lifted and Ricker flew across the finish line under blue skies and to the welcome of a roaring crowd.

She stopped for a moment to catch her breath, then threw her arms in the air to wind up the spectators, most of whom waved flags, toques and hands before breaking into an impromptu dance party.

Like Alexandre Bilodeau and Jenn Heil — both of whom have already taken home gold and silver respectively — Ricker said her medal was Canada's medal.

"I'm so thankful I was able to pull it off for everyone," she said.

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Maëlle Ricker holds up her flowers on the winner's podium after capturing the gold in the women's snowboard cross final at the Winter Games in Vancouver yesterday.

Canada's other hopeful — 2006 bronze medalist Dominique Maltais and a medal contender in these Games — failed to make it into the top 16. France's Deborah Anthonioz took silver and Switzerland's Olivia Nobs wound up with the bronze.

Whistler **Doubling up**

ELISE AMENDOLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tristan Walker, top, and Justin Snith of Canada practice during a run of the men's doubles luge training in Whistler yesterday.

News in brief

FIGURE SKATING Amid the grace and glamour and glitzy outfits of figure skating, the pure lung-busting, quad-burning athleticism of the sport often gets overlooked. Christy Krall, the American coach who has been guiding Canada's Patrick Chan for the better part of a year in the young skater's quest for Olympic glory, can recite the biomechanics of skating like the alphabet. "In the short program, Patrick's heart rate will reach what an Olympic 800-metre runner reaches, and the long program is like running a mile," Krall said. "These guys are very fit." Chan, who skated in the short program last night at the Pacific Coliseum, won't do a quad in Vancouver.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

World media focuses on McKeever

WHISTLER The eyes of the world turned to Brian McKeever yesterday when the visually impaired cross-country skier from Calgary arrived at the Olympic Games.

Eurosport, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Reuters and the Japanese daily Sankei Shimbun were among the international media that came to hear the story of a man who will make history as the first winter athlete to compete in both the Olympics and Paralympics.

McKeever, 30, will ski the 50-kilometre race on the final day of the 2010 Games at Whistler Olympic Park and possibly other events if a teammate becomes ill or injured. In doing so, he will narrow the perceived gap between athletes with a disability, and those without.

McKeever was diagnosed with Stargardt's disease, an inherited macular degeneration, as a teenager. He has less than 10 per cent vision and what he does have is peripheral.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brian McKeever, a visually impaired skiier, will make history at the Games as he's set to become the first winter athlete to compete in both the Olympics and Paralympics.

Jacobellis can't make good on second chance

SNOWBOARDING It was the thump heard all around the winter sports world.

Four years ago in Turin, Italy, American snowboarder Lindsey Jacobellis barrelled towards the finish line after building a huge lead in the women's Olympic snowboard cross final.

To celebrate, she grabbed her board and twisted her body, adding some mid-air zest off one of the last jumps.

But her balance slipped away on the landing and so did a surefire gold medal.

Some saw it as a cruel lesson of how poor sportsmanship can sometimes bite back.

Yesterday, Jacobellis couldn't make good on her second chance, exiting the snowboard cross competition after falling in the semifinal. This time it was incidental contact with gold medal winner Maëlle Ricker that was her downfall.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Did you know?
According to a recent TD retirement savings poll, 52 per cent of working Canadians under 65 are scared they haven't saved enough money for a comfortable retirement. METRO NEWS SERVICES

RRSP Guide

Don't forget
The deadline for making contributions to your Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) for the 2009 tax year is March 1, 2010. That means you only have 12 days left!

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Save on taxes with spousal RRSPs

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Spousal RRSPs can be a powerful tool for couples to generate more money during retirement while paying lower income tax.

While it may sound complicated, a spousal RRSP is simply an RRSP for which you use some or all of your RRSP contribution room to benefit your spouse.

David Ablett, director of tax and retirement planning at Investors Group, says ultimately the spousal RRSP is a great tool for couples to save on taxes and garner the benefits of income-splitting if one of them earns a significantly higher income than the other.

"It's a way to equalize the retirement income for the couple and generate more retirement income in the hands of the lower-income spouse," Ablett said.

The way it works is simple: The lower-income earner opens an RRSP in his or her own name, but with their spouse as contributor. That spouse can then contribute to that spousal RRSP up to a limit based on their own, much higher income, rather than the first spouse's lower income. That means more money put away for the lower-income spouse and tax savings for the higher-income spouse, a doubly beneficial arrangement.

If the higher-income earner's marginal tax rate was 40 per cent, for instance, he or she could initially save $4,000 by contributing $10,000 into a spousal RRSP. Plus, if the eventual payout is put at an even lower marginal tax rate, the couple could benefit from an even higher tax deduction and thus save even more money.

Bottom line: A spousal RRSP can reduce a couple's tax bill by shifting money to the lower-income spouse for a lower tax rate, while potentially helping to maintain Old Age Security benefits by keeping each partner's retirement income low enough to avoid clawbacks.

The total RRSP contribution space of the higher-income earner still applies to all contributions he or she makes into either their own or their partner's spousal RRSP. Even though you can't go over your natural contribution totals, the result is still a more efficient use of money.

"It's a way to equalize the retirement income for the couple." David Ablett

However, there is a government-imposed restriction to be aware of, Ablett says. Any money the lower-income holder of the RRSP withdraws from the spousal RRSP within the first three years stays taxable in the hands of the contributor — meaning the couple gains no benefit from the spousal RRSP arrangement.

"People who are saving for the long term with spousal RRSPs should try to determine when they need to take a payment from their spousal RRSP, and three years before that time, stop making contributions into that spousal RRSP," Ablett said.

A spousal RRSP allows you to use some or all of your contribution room to benefit your spouse.

Next week's lineup

LAST-MINUTE TIPS For advice on investing before the deadline and planning ahead for next year, pick up Metro's next RRSP Guide on Feb. 24.

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Alberta budget signals financial woes for provincial institutions
Following the Alberta government's budget announcement last week, post-secondary schools in the province are forecasting layoffs and salary constraints, and suspending plans for campus growth. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

uLaval opens up in Mexico

Last Thursday, Université Laval launched an office at the Santa Fe campus of Mexico's Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education, which will also open an office in Quebec at uLaval. With a long history of collaboration in Latin America, uLaval hopes its new physical presence in Mexico will foster student exchanges and the development of joint academic programs. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Workology in **brief**

COLLÈGE FRANÇOIS-XAVIER-GARNEAU GETS $11 MILLION The federal and Quebec governments announced last Friday an $11.1 million joint investment from the Knowledge Infrastructure Program to Collège François-Xavier-Garneau, a CÉGEP based in Quebec City.

MCGILL GETS CENTRE FOR BIODIVERSITY Yesterday McGill University launched the Quebec Centre for Biodiversity Science, which brings together over 60 researchers from eight provincial universities. The United Nations declared 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity.

UWINDSOR GOES FOR JD OVER LLB DESIGNATION Last week, the University of Windsor's senate approved the change in the name of the school's law degree from LLB to JD — Juris Doctor. The move was spearheaded by uWindsor students, who voted overwhelmingly in favour of the JD designation in a referendum held last spring. The JD designation will take effect for the incoming cohort, the graduating class of 2013. Current students and alumni who graduated earlier will have the option to change their degree title. A number of law schools in Canada have either completed or are reviewing the adoption of the JD designation.

CENTENNIAL FIRST CAMPUS IN CANADA TO OFFER ISLAMIC FINANCE COURSE Centennial College is the first school in Canada certified to teach the growing field of Islamic finance, a system that does not charge interest or invest in commodities contravening Islamic law. The online course, to be led by an Islamic scholar with financial expertise, will be available to the public this September, and Centennial has already filled a spring class with staff from a major bank.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Starting the food chain

Farming a potent job market as agriculture sector faces 'crisis'

Working the Wok

For the month of February, Metro's Workology section will be focusing on some delicious food-related careers. Check back every Wednesday for a new feature.

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

"Self-motivated" and "entrepreneurial" are good terms used to describe working in agriculture.

Canadian farming is heading for a disaster as fewer and fewer farming children continue the family business.

"In the next ten years, about 80 per cent of the agricultural assets in the country are going to be transferred," says Christie Young, director of Ontario's Farm Start. "We're going to have a massive crisis in the agricultural sector because we don't have the infrastructure set up to get people into farming."

Conversely, that means it's a great time to get into farming. Farm Start, a Guelph, Ont.,-based organization, helps people from non-farming backgrounds get into the industry. Some come with university degrees in agriculture and others are second-career farmers.

Farm Start begins with a four-day explorer course. "It's a time for people to think really critically about whether this is the right career for them and what it means to be a farmer," Young says.

People are drawn to the physical, meaningful work and are often passionate about raising livestock. They want to be their own boss and enjoy the diverse daily tasks.

"They have to be self-motivated," she says. "You can't just focus on one piece of the puzzle if you want to be a farmer. You have to think about your growing system as part of a bigger eco-system, your business model as part of a much bigger food system."

The best way to learn is to do, she says, so Farm Start helps organize farming internships and runs an incubator farm. Courses in business-planning, crop planning and soil-health management round out the training.

Norbert Kungl runs the organic vegetable farm Selwood Green on the shores of Nova Scotia's Minas Basin. He's from a farming area of central Germany, but his family did not farm. He studied agriculture before moving to Canada and working on a farm for four years. In 1987, he started his own farm.

"In the next ten years, about 80 per cent of the agricultural assets in the country are going to be transferred. We're going to have a massive crisis in the agricultural sector."
Christine Young

"I'm an entrepreneurial person who needs to do his own thing," he explains. He loves being his own boss on a large piece of land where he lives and works. He sells his produce at farmers' markets around Nova Scotia, including the Halifax Farmers' Market.

Like Young, he recommends non-farmers do an apprenticeship. "If you come from a farm, go out into the world and work on a variety of other farms or even other jobs to really know this is what you want to do," he says.

OAC

- The University of Guelph's Ontario Agriculture College is a global leader in innovative life sciences education and research for environment, agriculture, food, and rural communities.

For more of the Working the Wok exclusive series check Workology every Wednesday or stop by: **metronews.ca/work**

Embrace of e-books slow-going process
The advent of Apple's iPad is expected to increase interest in digital textbooks, the acceptance of which is slow-going among students. According to the U.S.-based Student Public Interest Research Groups, 75 per cent of students prefer print textbooks over digital. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ready for an online Olympic explosion?

Employers beware: Technological advancements mean that with just the click of a mouse, Olympic fans can for the first time access live streaming of the Games at any time of the day or night from their work stations.

IT experts are questioning whether businesses are equipped to handle the crush of online traffic generated by hordes of Olympic faithful following the Games from their desks.

Businesses that use a single link to the outside world for email and web browsing could see serious slow downs or even crashes unless they prepared in advance, said Darryl Wilson, with global IT solutions firm Dimension Data Canada in Mississauga, Ont.

"If there's a big hockey game or something going on … that link that they use to the outside world may become saturated because everyone's trying to get all this content from the Internet," said Wilson.

"Those businesses could find themselves unable to access email, send messages to clients or have their Internet operational if they don't have controls in place to limit non-business critical traffic versus critical traffic."

Is your company ready for the influx of employees catching the Olympics online?

"This will be the first time … anywhere, where every second of the Winter Games will be made available live."
Alon Marcovici

Canada's Olympic Broadcast Media Consortium estimates 10 million visitors will surf onto CTVOlympics.ca and RDSolympiques.ca sites. Together, they are offering 2,350 hours of live streaming of the Games as well as replays, highlights, photos and results.

"This will be the first time in Canada … actually the first time anywhere, where every second of the Winter Games will be made available live," said Alon Marcovici, the consortium's vice-president of digital media.

The websites will simulcast live feeds from CTV, TSN, Rogers Sportsnet, V and RDS. They'll also provide a feed of competitions adorned only by natural sound, not commentary, in an effort to give Internet surfers the feel of the Olympics from their chairs. Niche sports such as the biathlon, which don't get major TV play, can be seen in their entirety on the web.

At peak times, more than a dozen live streams will be running simultaneously.

Several people interviewed in downtown Toronto said they intend to watch the Olympics while on the job.

Canadians can also watch Olympics action through their XBox gaming consoles, on YouTube and through iTunes.

Bell estimates that more than three billion people across the globe will watch the Games through live broadcasts, the Internet and cellphones.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

m.metronews.ca

Many employees are sneaking peeks at Olympics events during work hours — but can office network handle the online crush? Scan the barcode for more.
Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

Courts don't tolerate toxic management

WorkplaceLaw

Today, much of the workforce views a manager's criticism as "bullying" or "harassment." As toxic bosses have become a greater liability, their employees no longer call their doctors seeking a note for a leave of absence. Now they call their lawyers. But as harassment is often in the eyes of the beholder, when will a tough boss justify a successful lawsuit?

Dora Cooke knew her eventual boss Patrice Comeau for most of her life. When Comeau and a partner opened a Sudbury, Ont., office of HTS Engineering Ltd., they needed an assistant and Cooke was offered the job. The relationship soon soured.

After only a few months, Cooke became wary of her boss. The two often argued and Cooke would usually end up in tears. Comeau expressed his expectations forcefully and sometimes with outbursts of anger. Cooke was often on the receiving end. He called Cooke an "idiot" and "pathetic" and gave her an IQ test, stating she would not pass the second question.

Matters came to a head when Cooke was accused of another mistake and told that her performance must improve. Cooke swiftly proclaimed that she was not the right fit for the job and left the offices never to return.

Cooke sued and claimed that as well as being bullied, she had been sexually harassed. Shocked by these serious allegations, Comeau and HTS defended these allegations all the way to a recent trial.

An Ontario judge rejected Cooke's claim that she had been sexually harassed. Although the court was troubled by evidence that Comeau and Cooke frequently engaged in sexual banter, Cooke ultimately welcomed the conversations and therefore, it could not be said that she was sexually harassed.

Cooke had, however, been bullied. An employer is entitled to be critical of unsatisfactory performance and to take measures, disciplinary or otherwise, to remedy that problem. When those measures become so unreasonable that an employee cannot be expected to persevere, she may be able to resign and claim damages for constructive dismissal. Here, Comeau's insulting language and outbursts of anger were enough to meet this test.

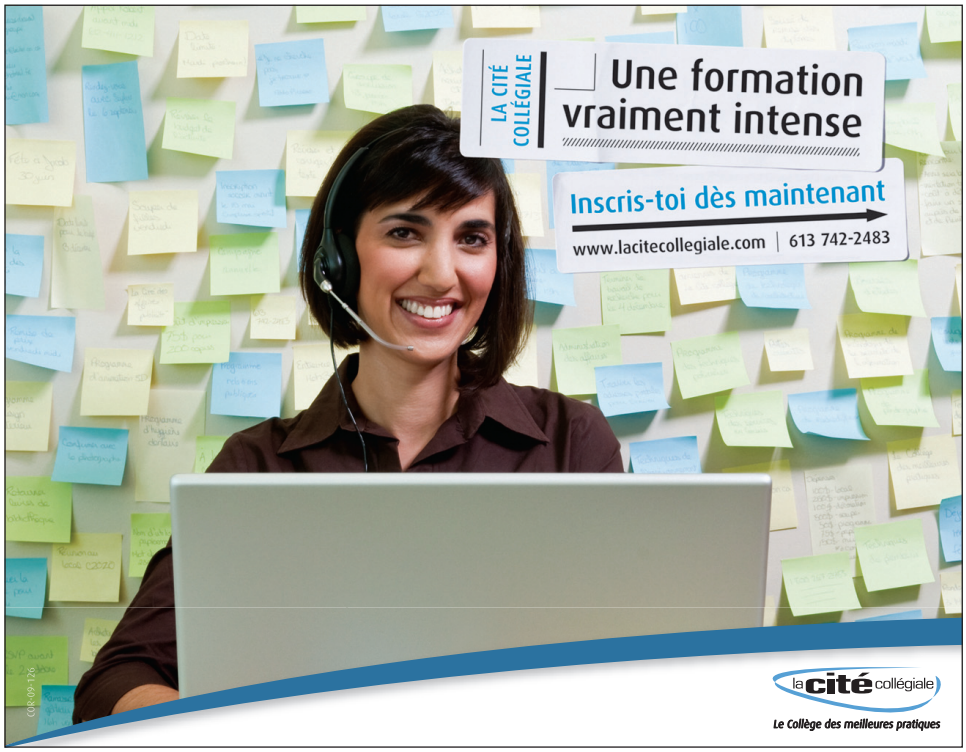
Cooke was awarded two months' salary and an additional payment on account of her mental distress.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer with Whitten & Lublin LLP. Reach him at dan@canadaemploymentlawyer.com.

Recurring issues

In the quest to strike an appropriate balance between legitimately criticizing an employee's performance and harassment at work, there are some recurring themes:

- Whether there is a workplace harassment policy and whether its details have been followed.
- Is criticism based on solely on work performance or are personal characteristics being challenged.
- Are inappropriate comments attached to performance management. No court would condone some of the comments that Comeau allegedly made.



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Fired uOttawa prof claims school spied on him
In November, Denis Rancourt, a tenured University of Ottawa physics professor fired last spring, filed a union grievance accusing the institution of engaging in "covert surveillance" against him. Rancourt claims that uOttawa hired a student taking chemistry at the time to investigate him. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Dating tips can work on the career path too

Girl on **Top**
Author: Nicole Williams
Publisher: Center Stree
Price: $24.99

CRAIG LUND
for Metro Canada

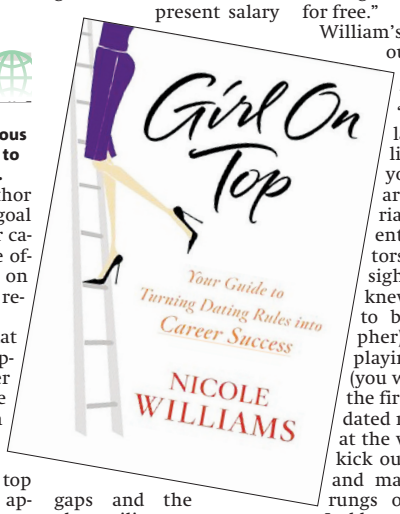
In our love lives it's obvious that the ultimate goal is to find the love of your life.

In the case of author Nicole Williams, this goal should align with your career … considering we often spend more time on the job than with our respective partners.

So why then is it that we don't often approach our career choices with the same tenacity that we do in dating?

According to Williams, by using the top rules for dating as an approach to finding your dream job, as well as to continue thriving within it, it just makes sense.

This book is written for women and also looks at the various issues that affect them in their career growth such as the still present salary gaps and the glass ceiling.



As Williams' puts it "working for less than industry standard is going to kill their career … Don't give away the milk for free."

William's takes a hilarious approach to this topic and will help the "job-loveless" lady see the light. Whether you're in an arranged marriage (both parents were doctors), love at first sight (always knew you wanted to be a photographer), or simply playing the field (you wouldn't marry the first guy you ever dated right?) you will at the very least get a kick out of this book, and maybe up a few rungs on the Career Ladder.

Craig Lund, a director with the staffing firm Marketers on Demand, can be reached at craig.lund@marketersondemand.com

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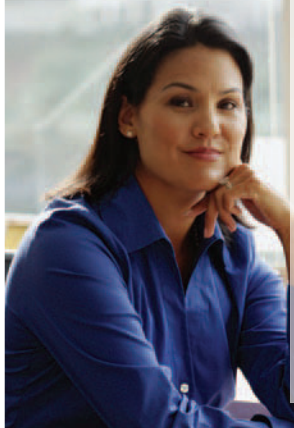
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WiFi in Volvo

In-car entertainment turned it up another wireless notch at the recent Chicago Auto Show when Volvo showed off "the industry's first Internet connected Rear Seat Entertainment System with Windows XP, WiFi and a 500G hard drive." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro Drive

Pets' best friends

Pet safety advocate group Bark Buckle UP has named the winners of its 2010 Pet Safe Choice Awards, which recognize pet-friendly and pet-safe vehicles. Top vehicles include the Dodge Journey, Ford Flex, Kia Soul, Honda Element, Smart, Subaru Outback and Volvo XC60. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Tough Tucson

Hyundai SUV stands out in crowd

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

2010 Hyundai Tucson

Type: Compact SUV
Price: from $22,999
Engine: 2.4L
HP: 176

Highlights

- Stable ride
- Roomier interior with better design and materials

The 2010 Hyundai Tucson features a powerful 2.4L engine with 176 hp and improved interior design.

Introduce a new model into a crowded segment, and it needs to be good or it won't survive. With an all-new Tucson for 2010, Hyundai has a solid entry among compact SUVs.

The outgoing model, which was showing its age, came with a choice of four-cylinder or V6. The 2010 model has only one engine, an all-new 2.4-litre, which at 176 horsepower is stronger than the V6 it replaces. The base model, at $22,999, uses a six-speed manual. All others come with a six-speed automatic, at prices ranging from $24,299 to a high of $34,449, which is top-end Limited trim further optioned with a navigation system and Hyundai's first-ever panoramic sunroof.

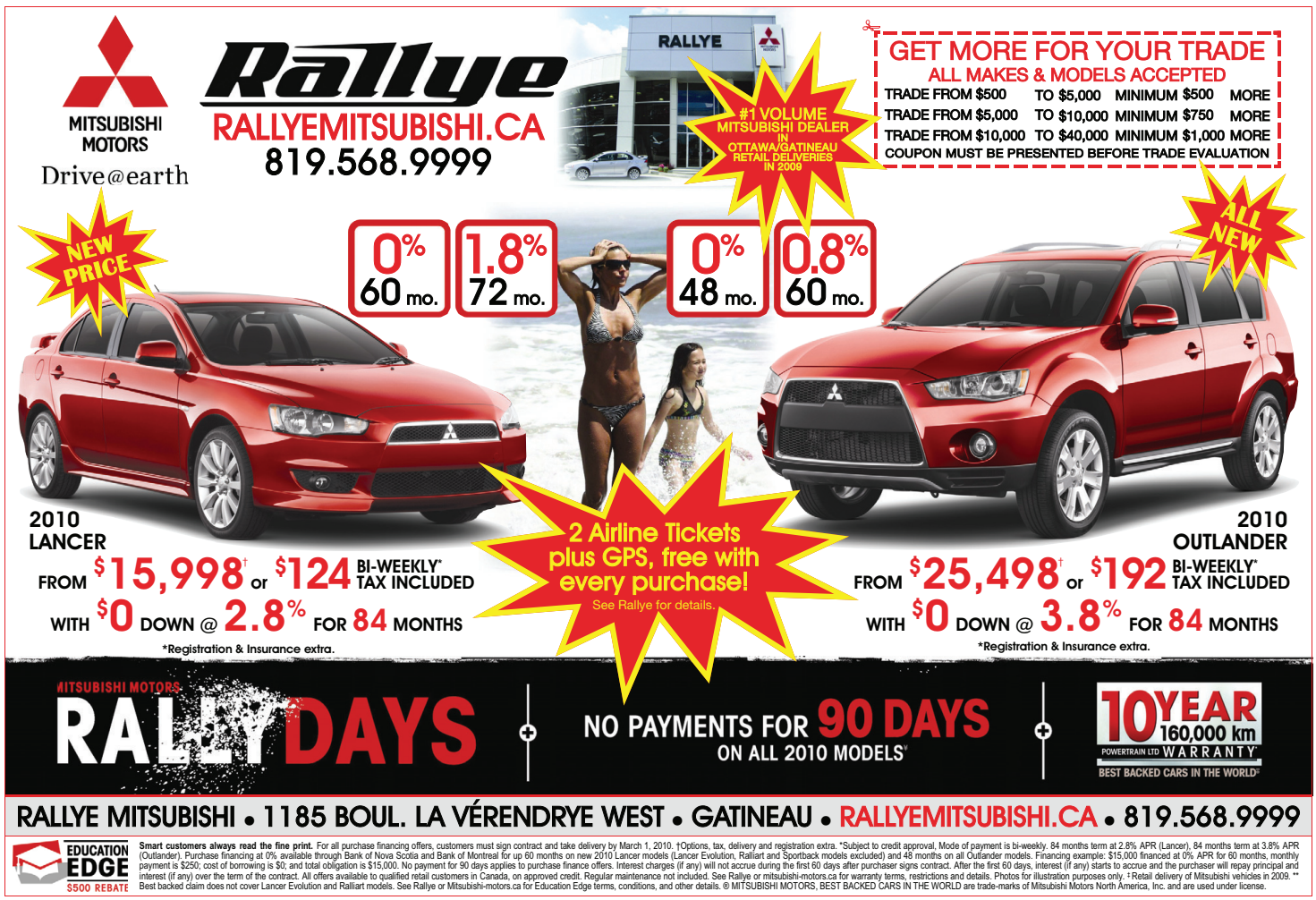
An all-wheel-drive system, optional on the two lower trim lines (except for the stick shift) and standard on the Limited runs primarily in front-wheel-drive, but can send 50 per cent power to the rear when necessary. At low speeds, it can also be locked into 50/50, handy for getting out of snowy driveways.

The ride is stable and pleasant, helped by front coil springs that slant sideways to keep the vehicle level on hard turns. The electric steering is tuned for a fairly organic feel, and the turning radius is spin-on-a-dime sharp.

Although it weighs 29 kilograms less, the new model is slightly larger than the outgoing version, and is very roomy inside, even in the second row. The dash design is night-and-day over the old model, with metallic accents, textured plastics, and blue backlighting. All models include air conditioning, six airbags, whiplash-reducing active front head restraints, and electronic stability control.

The engine's good enough that you won't feel any need for a V6. Unusually for a four-cylinder, stomping on the throttle for passing simply produces linear power, without any accompanying roar or whine. The six-speed automatic is well-matched to it, without any gear hunting on hills.

Frugal drivers will also appreciate that its published fuel consumption figures are among the best of all of its competitors.



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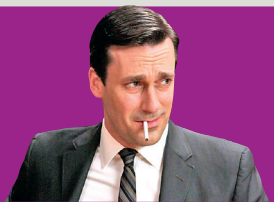
The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications, LLC, used under license. ††Government star ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). U.S. model tested. Please see www.safercar.gov for up to date information. ‡The Nissan Altima received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among midsize cars in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2009 U.S. Initial Quality Study®. Study based on responses from 80,890 U.S. new-vehicle owners, measuring 245 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February/May 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. The 2010 Versa Hatch and Rogue are winners of a Consumers Digest Best Buy Award. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications, LLC, used under license. ▪For a limited time receive up to $1,000 Grad discount available on select models when leasing or financing a new 2010 Nissan. See retailer for complete Grad program details.

New kid on the Vancouver block

The Fairmont Pacific Rim, fronting one of Vancouver's best addresses, features unobstructed views of the north Shore Mountains, Stanley Park and Coal Harbour. With its rooftop pools and resort style, it debuts in March with rates starting from $229 for a guestroom. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel



Stay like Mad Men in New York

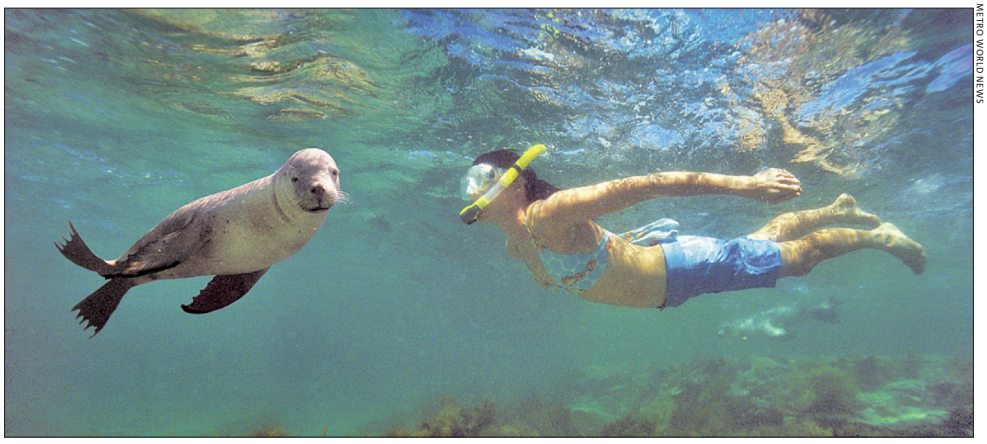
New York's Carlton hotel is offering the ultimate Mad Men Package this year, Mad about NYC. Guests can walk in the well-heeled footsteps of Don Draper, Roger Sterling, Joan Harris and the entire Sterling Cooper gang with this special travel package created exclusively for the Carlton Hotel for fans of the hit TV show Mad Men. The package is $129.99 per person + tax a night and is valid through the end of the year and can be booked on Carlton's website carltonhotelny.com. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

Going under down under

Take the plunge in Australia and swim with rare seal lions in Baird Bay

JESSICA CARLESON
Metro World News



METRO WORLD NEWS

The sea lions are very gentle but you do have to be aware that the lions are a prime meal for sharks.

Australian sea lion.

Australia is really nature's own animal experimentation lab.

The world's most venomous snakes and most dangerous sharks are found Down Under together with the cuddliest koalas and most colourful birds.

But, it turns out the most surprising and delightful aquatic creature in the southern hemisphere is the Australian sea lion. And in one beautiful and remote bay in South Australia, 745 kms west of Adelaide, you can even get the rare opportunity to swim with them.

LIFE CHANGING MOMENT

Alan and Trish Pound moved to quiet Baird Bay in 1992 to semi retire. Their plan was to enjoy life and do some fishing. Little did they know the encounter that would change their lives.

"We were fishing in the bay and suddenly a sea lion put its head up out of the water. Alan being curious jumped in and began swimming with it. They found us and we found them," Trish recalls.

Eventually the couple started swimming tours in Baird Bay, to allow others to enjoy this unique experience and also to increase knowledge and understanding of Australian Sea lions.

"They are misunderstood. It is thought that they steal fish from fishermen and destroy nets. That is not true," says Trish.

70 One of the rarest seal species, the Australian sea lion population consists of about 12 000 animals, nearly two-thirds of these live in the South Australian waters. In Baird Bay there is a colony of about 70. Another good place to get close to them is on Kangaroo Island where you can see the sea lions up close.

TWO TOURS A DAY

Only two tours a day are made to the shallow pool near the sea lions' island. When approaching the cliffs, nervous and exited, you first can't make out the seals from the background and then suddenly they spot us and one seal makes an agile leap into the water.

Soon other seals begin surfacing around the boat.

The sea lions have huge dark eyes and whiskers, no wonder Trish calls them the "cats of the sea." She also underlines that all tours are made strictly on the sea lions' terms.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Kangaroo Island is another place you can view the Australian sea lions up close.

"We never go on their island. We always meet them in their element, in the water. About six adults come out to the pool to play."

We are fitted with wetsuits and snorkels but fins are not allowed.

TAKE THE PLUNGE

My heart skips when I put my head under water and look into the big eyes of a seal called Fangs. When I instinctively reach out my hand the young sea lion nibbles playfully at my fingers and then speeds off, amazingly acrobatic and graceful. I thought I was a good swimmer — these sea lions show us who's king of this element, with something I can only interpret as a great sense of humour.

But why do they want to swim with humans?

"Because they enjoy our company," Trish says and stresses that they have never fed the sea lions or dolphins in the bay.

"You don't have to feed someone for them to become your friend. If you treat them with respect they give it back."

SHARK!

Trish and Alan are not the only ones who love sea lions. Sharks fancy them too, but as dinner. But Trish says there hasn't been a shark attack on a human in Baird Bay since they began their tours.

"But they are close by, we keep a close watch," says Trish.

Travel in brief

HOLIDAY INN The Holiday Inn brand is undergoing a global Holiday Inn relaunch. The relaunch is a $1 billion global initiative. All over the world, every single Holiday Inn and Holiday Inn Express will have to sign onto the relaunch by the end of this year or lose their flag. Relaunch elements include upgraded and decluttered lobby areas, a Holiday Inn scent and sound, new bedding, upgraded showers and new signage with the redesigned logo

SAN DIEGO The San Diego North Convention and Visitors Bureau is looking for San Diego North travel stories from recent visitors to feature in the Bureau's newly launched Don't Be Left Without a Story – Write Yours in San Diego North campaign. Visitors can share their favorite San Diego North memories, experiences and photos with other visitors on the Bureau's website SanDiegoNorth.com for a chance to win a trip to La Jolla, valued at over $1,700.

HEADED TO PARIS The legendary Hotel du Palais is hosting Members and Friends of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art for five nights from June 1 to 6, 2010 as part of a nine-day program entitled Napoleonic Splendors: Palaces and Pleasures. The program rate per person is $9,450 with a single supplement of $1,385. Rate includes nine nights hotel accommodations, a first class train ticket to Paris and all meals. International airfare is not included

TRAVEL FACEBOOK As travelers look for new and ever more effective ways to gather information on the latest deals, trends and gadgets, a new resource on the Web takes them straight to the source: the people who write about travel for a living. Tripatini.com, the international social network the New York Post dubbed Facebook for travelers, allows consumers to tap into the collective knowledge of these experts.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Olympic boost
Olympic tourism officials have released a report showing that the Vancouver economy got a boost in the amount of $5.2 million on Opening Day alone. METRO NEWS SERVICES

The day when everyone is Irish

Visit Dublin next month for a St. Patrick's Day celebration and pints of Guinness like no other

EUGENE HENDERSON
Metro World News

METRO WORLD NEWS
Temple Bar is famous the world over for being the Irish bar you must visit at least once.

Think of Ireland and you probably think of St Patrick's Day and drinking Guinness.

And for good reason. There's probably not a better spot on planet Earth next month to sample the delights and passions of Dublin than while the city is celebrating the country's patron saint.

WHERE TO WAKE UP

Fitzwilliam Hotel
fitzwilliamhotel.com

After a night carousing and talking to anyone and everyone at Kehoe's on South Anne's Street it's handy to be staying Fitzwilliam Hotel right in the heart of Dublin.

Ideally located by Stephen's Green and very handy for Dublin's finest.

WHERE TO SPEND THE MORNING

Temple Bar
thetemplebarpub.com

The world famous Temple Bar has plenty of street entertainment and musicians to keep your mind off the Guinness.

Or stroll down O'Connell Street to the historic General Post Office where the Easter Uprising started.

WHERE TO LUNCH

The Stags Head
thestagshead.ie

A great Dublin haunt hidden away on Dame Square. Worth a trip to just for the classic decor and a great place for a few pints ahead of a night out. Four pints and two hearty bowls of Irish stew with soda bread will cost under $25, but not on Sunday.

WHERE TO SPEND THE AFTERNOON

Viking Splash Tours
vikingsplash.ie

Dublin is awash with fabulous bars and shopping is catered for in Brown Thomas' elegant Grafton Street store.

But for something different try climbing aboard Viking Splash Tours for a land and water experience in a Second World War Amphibious vehicle.

WHERE TO HAVE DINNER

Abrakebabra
abrakebabra.com

On St Pat's Day you're allowed to skip a meal to allow room for a drink or three.

Later a visit to a fast food store like Abrakebabra — no prizes for guessing what they sell — will be mandatory.

Decent grub for less than $10.

WHERE TO SPEND THE NIGHT AWAY

O'Donoghue's
odonoghues.ie

Dublin comes alive once the lights start to dim. O'Donoghue's on Merrion Row is always a winner and has strong links with the band The Dubliners.

Other Irish greats including Christy Moore, The Fureys, and Thin Lizzy's Phil Lynott have all played there on numerous hazy nights

ONE FOR THE ROAD

BRUXELLES PUB

It sits across the street from McCaids but this other famous bar claim to fame is strictly beer.

You can shop around for a cheap pint of Guinness and it has become quite a pastime, despite the recent reduction in the level of taxes on the black stuff but Bruxelles still has the best at $4.50 for the perfect pint. Clover included.

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The number of rooms available at these rates is limited. Minimum length-of-stay requirements may apply for Friday or Saturday arrivals. Savings based on non-discounted rate for the same room. Additional per-adult charges apply if more than two adults in a room. No group rates or other discounts apply. Advance reservations required.
©Disney RST-09-15177

Headed to the beach
Porter Airlines is offering round trips between Toronto and Myrtle Beach beginning Feb. 28. One-way fares start at $199, plus taxes. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Trekking off the beaten path

Ziplining, horseback tours and nature adventures await in Florida

On a recent, chilly evening, I looked up and saw more stars than I ever had in the Florida sky. I was 14 metres above the ground and my heart was racing.

Then, I stepped off my platform into an inky abyss. I could barely see the glimmer of a swamp below.

Attached to a harness and a cable, I flew through the forest to the next platform. The hum of the zipline and the occasional night bird were the only sounds in my ears.

This was no Central Florida theme park ride — it was a starlight zipline tour on a ranch south of Orlando. For a weekend, I trekked around the area in search of a wild Florida, away from the manicured and manufactured.

The greater Orlando area is well-known for the obvious: Sprawling strip malls, chain eateries and, of course, enormous theme parks promising fun and adventure. At some point, you may get sick of the parks, tired of rollercoasters and can't take another cartoon character. It's time to get wild and get off the well-worn tourist path.

TIM MCLAUFF/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Positioned 14 metres off the ground, ziplining safaris aren't for the faint of heart.

There are plenty of possibilities. From the starlight zipline tour to waterskiing to off-road safaris both motorized and hoofed, there's much more to the area than most tourists ever dream of.

WANT TO FLY?

Tours vary by cost but a zipline safari and a horseback adventure is $110 at Forever Florida in St. Cloud. Check out foreverflorida.com for more details.

GOT A NEED FOR SPEED?

Do you want to feel the wind in your hair as you whip through the brush of the Florida countryside? Price varies by tour but a two-and-a-half-hour ATV experience costs $65 at Revolution Off-Road Experience in Clermont. Visit revolutionoffroad.com for more details.

TIM MCLAUFF/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Horseback tours are a great way to see the real Florida.

Something to do after Disney

WHERE TO STAY?

After a hard day of trekking through Florida you will want a quiet place to rest your head. The Lakeside Inn in St. Cloud has rooms for as little as $35 and suites starting at $65. There is a restaurant onsite with giant breakfasts. Visit lakesideinnfl.com to book.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Vacations

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Champions World Resort + taxes & fees $109
INCLUDES accom near *Walt Disney World* Resort. Departs Apr 12/ggv/dl.

Las Vegas Air + 3 Nights — $339
Circus Circus + taxes & fees $114
INCLUDES accom on the Strip. Departs Mar 8/ggv/dl.

Alaska 7-Night Cruise — $459
Celebrity Millennium + taxes & fees $183
CRUISE from Anchorage/Seward to Vancouver and visit Ketchikan, Icy Straight Point, Juneau and cruise to Hubbard Glacier. Sails May 21/cel.

New Orleans Air + 3 Nights — $559
Chateau Le Moyne + taxes & fees $118
INCLUDES accom in the French Quarter. Departs Mar 1/ggv/aa.

Spain, Calella Air + 7 Nights — $899*
Apartamentos Neptuno + taxes & fees $307
INCLUDES airport transfers and apartment style accom with kitchenette located close to the beach and less than 1 hour from Barcelona. Departs May 29/vat/ts.

Hawai'i Island Combo
Air + 7 Nights — $1029*
Ohana Waikiki West & Aston at the Maui Banyan + taxes & fees $165
INCLUDES air to Honolulu, 4 nights Waikiki accom, inter-island air, 3 nights Maui accom and return air from Maui. Departs Apr 14/ggv/dl.

Europe Tours

Croatia Sailing, 8-Day Tour — $755^
Croatia Sailing - Senia taxes & fees included
HIGHLIGHTS sailing onboard a traditional Croatian sailboat, Milna, Hvar, Korcula, Dubrovnik, Mljet & Makarska. Roundtrip Split. Departs Jun 5/tpd.

Turkey 13-Day Tour — $1224
Leisurely Tour of Turkey taxes & fees included
HIGHLIGHTS Gallipoli, Canakkale, Troy, Izmir, Kusadasi, Pamukkale, Agzikarahan Caravanserai, Konya, Rock Chapels in Göreme, Ankara, King Midas' Tomb in Gordion and Bursa. Roundtrip Istanbul. Departs Mar 21/cos.

Greek Islands Sailing Adventure
8-Day Tour — $1299
Greek Islands Sailing - Mykonos to Santorini taxes & fees included
HIGHLIGHTS sailing aboard a 50-foot yacht, Aegean Sea, Cyclades Islands, Mykonos and Santorini. Departs various Sundays May - Oct/gap.

Italy 8-Day Tour — $1849
Italy's Great Cities taxes & fees included
HIGHLIGHTS Pisa, Florence, Verona and Venice. Roundtrip Rome. Departs Mar 21/glb.

Spain, Morocco & Portugal
15-Day Tour — $2199
Highlights of Spain Morocco & Portugal taxes & fees included
HIGHLIGHTS Toledo, Granada, Fez, Marrakesh, Casablanca, Rabat, Tangier, Gibraltar, Seville and Lisbon. Roundtrip Madrid. Departs Jun 6/tfg.

Baltic Europe 16-Day Tour — $2655
Jewels of the Baltics & Scandinavia taxes & fees included
HIGHLIGHTS Copenhagen, Berlin, Warsaw, Gauja National Park, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, St Petersburg, Helsinki and Stockholm. Departs Copenhagen. Departs May 15/cos.

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Departs Mar 7/acv/ac.

Punta Cana 7 Nights 4-Star — $658
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Departs Feb 22/sgn/5g.

Jamaica 7 Nights 4-Star — $710
Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort & Spa + taxes & fees $258
Departs Feb 21/sqv/5g.

Varadero 7 Nights 4-Star — $715
Mercure Playa de Oro + taxes & fees $205
Departs Mar 8/swg/wg.

Mayan Riviera 7 Nights 4-Star — $817
RIU Lupita + taxes & fees $262
Departs Mar 5/sqv/5g.

Cancun 7 Nights 4.5-Star — $877
Royal Solaris + taxes & fees $262
Departs Mar 5/sqv/5g.

Costa Rica 7 Nights 4.5-Star — $1341
Occidental Grand Papagayo + taxes & fees $210
Departs Mar 6/acv/ac.

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Madonna looking at new fashion line
Madonna is in talks to launch a women's clothing line to be sold at Macy's, sources tell Women's Wear Daily. The line would include apparel, accessories, lingerie, and shoes — the underwear portion possibly to be named Truth or Dare. EW.COM

Entertainment

Spelling book
Simon & Schuster — publisher of Tori Spelling's two previous books — has signed the actress to her first children's book, Presenting...Tallulah, the tale of a spunky little girl. EW.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Thrilling recreation

Martin Scorsese chats with Metro about Shutter Island

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Few filmmakers have reached the iconic status of Martin Scorsese. With a back catalogue filled with classic titles like Taxi Driver, Raging Bull, and Goodfellas, his place as one of the greats in cinema history is assured.

These days the director has little left to accomplish, but can't stop making movies because of his undying passion for the medium. An obsessive cinephile, Scorsese continues to be inspired by films of the past and seeks out opportunities to make projects equal to those that enthrall him as a viewer. His latest film is Shutter Island, an attempt to recreate one of the Hollywood thrillers of his youth.

Although Scorsese had previously undertaken something similar in 1991 with Cape Fear, the director told Metro that he wasn't sure how Shutter Island would turn out.

"I like to say that I didn't quite know what it would be and gave myself over to the material along with the actors," he said. "It was a process of discovery throughout. That doesn't mean that I didn't know that it was going to be a process of discovery, I just didn't know how much there would be and there turned out to be a great deal."

Shutter Island opens Friday

Though somewhat uneasy with the material, Scorsese did know from the beginning where his movie fit in with the history of film and how he would honour his narrative forbearers.

"I think the trappings of the story and the nature of the situation automatically bring certain films to my mind and certain images that go back several hundred years," said Scorsese.

"A shot of a mansion at night in a storm creates certain reactions because that's part of our DNA to a certain extent in film. So the movie draws a lot on a very long memory of films that's I've seen and books that I've read over the years.

"The issue was to have them work for our story and our characters, but at the same time refer to other material from the past. In other words, the more you see of the past the more you can draw up that to make the present and the future."

When asked what specific influences he drew upon for his tale of a detective unraveling a dark mystery in a foreboding mental institution, the director pointed to a few specific genre filmmakers he valued above all others.

"Well there's always Mario Bava and his use of very powerful colours. I always loved the thriller/horror films that he made in the late '50s early '60s like Black Sunday and Black Sabbath and I keep referring to them," revealed Scorsese. "But Val Lewton and Jacques Tourneur's movies like Cat People are really the key films. They are beautiful works of poetry that I look at repeatedly. They are like pieces of music. I keep watching them and its kind of new every time. I can't reach that level of Tourneur though. He was remarkable."

Scorsese might be too modest to admit that he's an equal to the filmmakers that inspire him, but audiences need to only watch a few minutes of his extraordinary work to see that he is one of the true masters of cinema.

Martin Scorsese and Leonard DiCaprio on the set of Shutter Island.

Roger Ebert has lost ability to speak, but still communicates

Film critic Roger Ebert lost his ability to speak nearly four years ago, when he underwent a tracheostomy, a procedure that opens an airway through an incision in the windpipe, after surgery for cancer in his jaw.

Roger Ebert lost his ability to speak after surgery in 2006.

In an interview in the new issue of Esquire magazine, the 67-year-old film critic for the Chicago Sun-Times uses pen and paper and text-to-speech computer software to communicate. He's developed a kind of rudimentary sign language, and he sometimes draws letters with his finger on the palm of his hand.

Ebert had surgery to remove his cancerous thyroid in 2002. He had surgery on his salivary glands in 2003 and on his jaw in 2006. Complications in 2006 led to more surgery and months of recuperation.

He lost his ability to speak.When asked about another operation to restore his voice, Ebert shakes his head.

Ebert has been a film critic for the Sun-Times since 1967. In 1975, he became the first journalist to win a Pulitzer Prize for movie criticism.

His thumb, pointing up or down, was the main logo of the televised movie review shows he co-hosted, first with Gene Siskel of the rival Chicago Tribune and — after Siskel's death in 1999 — with his Sun-Times colleague Richard Roeper.

The Esquire article describes a moment where Ebert begins to type on his computer. He presses a button and the speakers light up. "I've never said this before," the voice says, "but we were born to be Siskel and Ebert." The voice then says: "I just miss the guy so much."

Besides his film reviews, Ebert writes a blog and has published numerous books. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Mueller checks into rehab

Charlie Sheen's wife Brooke Mueller has checked into a rehab center for substance abuse. Mueller, 32, checked into The Canyon rehab facility in Malibu last Tuesday, according to TMZ.com. PEOPLE.COM

Gaga gets three Brit Awards

MUSIC Flamboyant singer Lady Gaga swept the U.K.'s Brit Awards Tuesday, winning three categories and offering an emotional tribute to Alexander McQueen, the British fashion designer who died last week.

Gaga collected awards for best international female artist, best international breakthrough act and best international album for The Fame, and performed at the ceremony wearing a towering white wig and lace veil — complete with ornate lace eyebrows.

At points, the singer appeared overcome with emotion and paid tribute to McQueen as she collected her first prize — referring to the designer by the name Lee. "Thank you to Lee McQueen," Gaga said, her voice strained.

Gaga, a friend of McQueen, recently wore his iconic lobster-claw shoes in her Bad Romance music video. The designer was found dead Thursday after apparently committing suicide.

U.S. rapper Jay-Z also claimed an award, for best international male, during a ceremony at London Earl's Court arena.

British boy band JLS claimed an award for best domestic breakthrough act.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lady Gaga, left.

EMI selling Abbey Road studios

MUSIC Cash-strapped music company EMI Group Ltd. is seeking a buyer for Abbey Road studios, where The Beatles recorded some of their most famous songs, a person familiar with the situation said Tuesday.

The person said talks had been going on for several months, but a buyer had not yet been found. The individual spoke on condition of anonymity because the talks are private.

A spokesman for EMI refused to comment on the sale bid, which could raise tens of millions of dollars for the label.

EMI, whose artists include Coldplay, Lily Allen and Robbie Williams, has struggled financially since it was bought in 2007 for 2.4 billion pounds by private equity firm Terra Firma Capital Partners.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Definite asset

- Abbey Road is one of EMI's most high-profile assets, as both a recording studio and a tourist attraction for Beatles fans. It was bought in 1929.

Oscar loves a villain

Academy favours the dark side (again) for 2009 nominations

For your consideration: A pedophile serial killer with a creepy dollhouse hobby, a murderous Nazi who delights in tormenting Jews, and a hateful mother who abuses her daughter and granddaughter.

Hollywood loves a bad boy and so does Oscar, with academy voters nominating several roles this year that are less than cordial, if not downright crazy.

There's Christoph Waltz for his chilling performance as smooth-talking, Jew-hunting Nazi Col. Hans Landa in Inglourious Basterds; Stanley Tucci for his scary, blue-eyed turn as pedophile George Harvey in The Lovely Bones; and Mo'Nique for her role as Mary Jones, the abusive mother in Precious.

So what is it about iniquitous villains that actors, moviegoers and members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences find so compelling?

"I think we take a vicarious pleasure in the problems that they present, in the pain that they inflict, and not least of which in the demise that they suffer at some point," says Stephen Lang, who plays the vengeful, scar-faced military officer Miles Quaritch in Avatar.

"It's like having a vaccine," says Karen Sternheimer, a sociology professor at the University of Southern California. "It's a low dose of something that you really don't want to experience in real life, a way of experiencing something really awful about the human condition from a safe distance."

The Academy has long been fascinated with bad guys... and girls. Actor Mo'Nique, right, as an abusive mother to Gabourey Sidibe's (left) character Precious in the eponymous 2009 film, is up for an Oscar.

"We're seeing cutthroat Hollywood exposing themselves in a clear trend . . . a broader acceptance that these (evil) roles are artistic."

Tom O'Neill, writer for TheEnvelope.com

This season's crop of nefarious characters highlights a long-standing pattern among academy voters of tending toward the dark side.

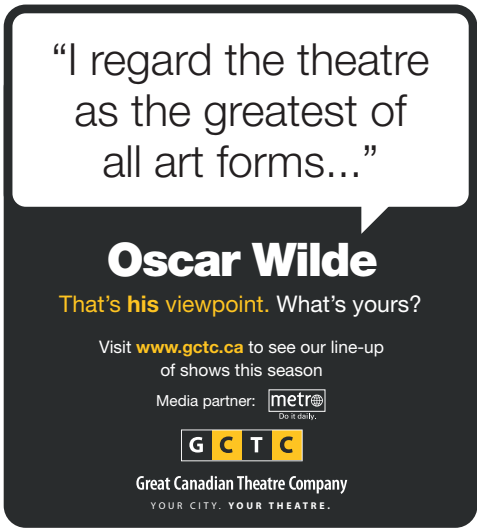
In 1932, Fredric March won best actor for Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. And who can forget Louise Fletcher's winning role as the cold-hearted Nurse Ratched in 1975's One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest. Then there's Anthony Hopkins' unforgettable 1991 portrayal of Hannibal Lecter in Silence of the Lambs. Yet academy voters seem to be embracing the unsavoury even more of late, reflecting a change in what kinds of roles might be considered Oscar-worthy, says Tom O'Neill, a writer for the awards-tracking website, TheEnvelope.com.

"We're seeing cutthroat Hollywood exposing themselves in a clear trend . . . a broader acceptance that these (evil) roles are artistic," he says. "We're seeing more artistic movies become darker."

Take Heath Ledger's posthumous Oscar last year for his supporting role as the Joker in The Dark Knight, a villain so vicious that playing him reportedly kept the actor up nights. Another bad guy, Javier Bardem's cattlegun-wielding Anton Chigurh in No Country for Old Men, took the same prize the previous year.

Tilda Swinton won the supporting actress Oscar for her 2007 role as a heartless, scheming attorney in Michael Clayton. Daniel Day Lewis took home the golden guy that same year for his leading performance as ruthless, murderous oil man Daniel Plainview in There Will Be Blood. Before that, Forest Whitaker won for his turn as Idi Amin, the corrupt, bloodthirsty Ugandan dictator, in The Last King of Scotland.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The Hunter seeks the Golden Bear

An Iranian movie, made against the backdrop of last year's election campaign and centring on a man whose wife is killed in a shootout between police and demonstrators, made its debut Tuesday at the Berlin film festival.

Director Rafi Pitts said he received authorization to make The Hunter from Iranian authorities and shot it before the violence that followed President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's disputed re-election last June.

Pitts, who grew up in Tehran but has lived in Britain and France since, said he had "no idea" when the film might be shown in Iran.

GETTY IMAGES

Iranian Rafi Pitts both directs and stars in film The Hunter.

"I don't think it's a one-sided film, so I think it has the right to be shown," he said at a news conference. "The question is, will they give me the right?"

The film's main character, played by the director, is released from prison amid talk of upcoming elections and Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamene.

He tries to spend time with his wife and young daughter, but they are accidentally killed in a shootout. Pitts' character, Ali, randomly shoots dead two policemen on a city highway, after a long and frustrating wait for information, and flees before being nabbed by two officers who argue about what to do with their captive.

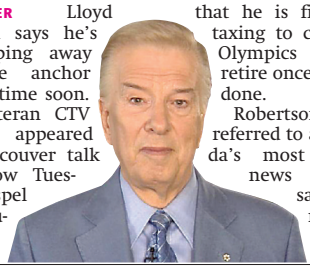
Pitts insisted that the film depicts a "Kafkaesque situation (that) relates to many countries, it's a universal theme."

The Hunter is one of 20 films competing for the festival's top Golden Bear prize, which will be awarded Saturday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Robertson is not fading into the sunset anytime soon

NEWSCASTER Lloyd Robertson says he's not stepping away from the anchor desk any time soon.



The veteran CTV newsman appeared on a Vancouver talk radio show Tuesday to dispel online rumours that he is finding it taxing to cover the Olympics and will retire once they are done.

Robertson, often referred to as "Canada's most trusted news anchor," said the rumours were a "fascinating work of fiction, really fascinating."

"I don't know where this comes from, but the premise is that I'm tired, I'm worn out," Robertson said on CKNW's The Bill Good Show.

According to the rumours, the 76-year-old plans to tell top brass at the beginning of next month that he will step down.

"Do I look like I'm wasting away?" Robertson asked Good while chuckling over the story. "Do I look tired?"

The rumours began with a blog post by Howard Bernstein, a former TV producer who has worked for CBC, CTV and Global.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PT	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00		
2/17/10 primetime	265	353	2	TVO	Meerkat Manor	Meerkat Manor	The Agenda With Steve Paikin		The Fixer (Part 1 of 6)		View From Hr	View From Hr	Agenda-Paikin	
	211	331	3	GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Bones (HDTV PA)		Kitchen Nightmares		The Deep End (N)		News Hour	
	-	-	5	SRC	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie	Le Moment de vérité (SC)		Mirador (HDTV) (N) (SC)		Le Téléjournal Nouvelles. (SC)		Vancouver	
	209	342	6	CHRO	TMZ (N)	Access H.	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		American Idol (HDTV) (N)		CSI: NY (HDTV)		Comedy Now	
	196	311	7	CTV	(6) XXI Winter Olympics Speed Skating, Hockey, Snowboarding, Medal Ceremonies. (Live)									
	208	303	8	CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragons' Den (HDTV)		Republic of Doyle (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour	
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	XXI Winter Olympics Snowboarding, Speed Skating, Skiing. (HDTV) (Live)							
	117	713	10	TVA	Poule-oeufs or	Les Gags (SC)	Destinées (HDTV) (SC)		Dr. House (SC)		TVA nouvelles	(10:45) Denis Lévesque		
	-	-	11	QS	(5:30) Jeux olympiques d'hiver: Vancouver 2010 Le hockey féminin, patinage de vitesse courte piste, surf des neiges. (En direct)									
	137	763	12	TFO	Panorama		L'empire du mot		*En attendant le bonheur* ★★★ (2002, Drame), Nana Diakite				Expression	
	-	362	13	CBS	The Insider (N)	Judge Brown	Old Christine	Unmarried	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: NY (HDTV)		Two/Half Men	
	216	395	14	OMN2	Family Guy	The Simpsons	XXI Winter Olympics Short Track Speed Skating. (Live)					King/Queens	Cold Case	
	214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: Special Victims		How I Met	How I Met	Modern Family	The Middle	Cougar Town	Cougar Town	News	
	115	343	16	CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Office	XXI Winter Olympics Snowboarding. (Live)				Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Metropia	
	218	345	18	CHCH	*Shapeshifter* ★ (1999, Fantasy) Paul Nolan, Bill MacDonald.				*No Contest* ★★ (1994, Action) Andrew "Dice" Clay.				News at 11 (N)	
	-	361	20	ABC	Action News	Entertainment	Modern Family	The Middle	Modern Family	The Middle	Cougar Town	Cougar Town	News	
	512	396	24	CPAC	(5:30) Jeux olympiques d'hiver: Vancouver 2010 Le hockey féminin, patinage de vitesse courte piste, surf des neiges. (En direct)									
	651	355	25	CTS	Little House on the Prairie		Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman		100 Huntley Street		Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee	
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	Human Target (N)		American Idol (HDTV) (N)		FOX 2 News (N)		News	
	-	-	64	PBS	Business Rpt.	Steves Europe	Faces of America		The National Parks: America's Best Idea (DVS)				Charlie Rose	
	205	312	104	CTV	(6) XXI Winter Olympics Speed Skating, Hockey, Snowboarding, Medal Ceremonies. (Live)									
news	502	390	26	NW	Connect Today's biggest stories. (N)				CBC News: The National		Geologic Journey		National	
	500	500	33	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)			
sports	406	417	27	net	(6) XXI Winter Olympics Curling, Speed Skating, Hockey. (HDTV) (Live)									
	126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes (SC)		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie	Le National	Le Téléjournal	
	400	280	30	TSN	(6) XXI Winter Olympics Hockey, Curling, Snowboarding. (HDTV) (Live)									
	410	403	52	SCR	NBA Basketball Memphis Grizzlies at Toronto Raptors. (Live)					NBA Basketball Phoenix Suns at Dallas Mavericks.				
	411	457	56	OLN	Angry Planet	Bounty Hunter	XXI Winter Olympics Snowboarding, Luge. (Live)					Angry Planet	Destin. Truth	
	417	406	59	SC	Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Dangerous Drives (HDTV) (N)		Pass Time (N)	Pass Time (N)	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pass Time	
family	554	544	48	TEL	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Robot Chicken	
	557	540	51	FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven	
	551	542	65	YTV	Fries That?	Prank Patrol	The Next Star		The Next Star "16 to 6"		Family Biz	To Be Indie	Prank Patrol	
cable variety	570	580	29	MM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Entourage	Wild 'n Out	mmtop10.ca	
	615	520	31	A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Steven Seagal	
	628	584	32	SPKE	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	MANswers	Blue Mountain	
	521	560	34	TLC	Mystery Diagnosis		Obese and Pregnant		Twins by Surprise		Toddlers & Tiaras (N)		Pregnant	
	145	761	35	TV5	Verdict		*Papa* (2004, Com. dramatique) Alain Chabat, Martin Combes.				A Table	Mixeur	TV5 Le Journal	
	616	521	39	SHO	Relic Hunter		*Summer House* (2008, Suspense) Lindsay Price.				HawthoRNe (HDTV) (N)		NCIS	
	620	523	40	BVO	Death at-Opera	Bravo!Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan File	Wingfield	Star Portraits	White Collar		Law & Order	
	520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		The Colony (N)		Man vs. Wild "Texas"		Mayday		Daily Planet	
	575	583	43	CMT	Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	CMT Star	
	601	562	45	SLC	Rich Bride Poor Bride		End of Leash	End of Leash	End/Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada	
	625	548	46	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Little Britain	Hot Box (N)	Daily Show	
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	College Basketball Georgia at Tennessee. (HDTV) (Live)				Law & Order: Special Victims		The Office	
	600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Agent-Agent	Real Estate	Property Virgin	Unsellable	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes/Homes	
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Smallville "Roulette"		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		InnerSpace	
	581	566	53	MTV	Canada's Next Top Model		Canada's Next Top Model		The Real World		The Real World (N)		Real World	
	618	524	54	TROP	Rescue Ink		Hoarders "Deborah; Jim"		Hoarders "Linda; Todd"		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Spoiled Rotten	
	522	506	55	HIS	Ice Pilots NWT (N)		Nostradamus Effect		Ice Road Truckers		Ice Pilots NWT (HDTV)		Re-Inventors	
	129	773	60	CD	Biographies (HDTV)		Le Convoi de l'extrême		Destr Expr	Destr Expr	Histoires de crimes (HDTV)		Images-chocs	
	261	394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote		No Place Like	Open All Hours	Doc Martin (N)		Unscripted (N)	God Bless	Poltergeist	
	602	567	62	W	Supernanny		Chef Worthy	Grocery Bag	The Restaurant	Grocery Bag	*Rivals* ★ (2000, Docudrama) Jennifer Finnigan.			
	269	350	70	APTN	XXI Winter Olympics Skiing, Cross Country Skiing. (Live)					Jeux olympiques d'hiver: Vancouver 2010 Le curling féminin.				
	621	527	71	TLK	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (N)		TMZ	
	603	561	95	FN	Ricardo	Fresh-Anna	Challenge		Iron Chef America		Chopped		Restaurant	

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Anxiety, huh?
Chynna Phillips has entered a rehab facility for anxiety, tvguide.com reports. "With the full support of her family and friends, she is looking forward to her recovery," said her publicist, Lizzie Grubman, who didn't disclose the location. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Gossiping about the gossiper

SPOTTED: Gossip Girl's Matthew Settle — with other women, usmagazine.com reports.

"Divorce is imminent," a source says of the actor, 40, and his wife, model Naama Nativ

His wedding ring was off during NYC fashion shows Feb. 11 and 12, adds the website. (A rep for the actor could not be reached for comment.)

METRO NEWS SERVICES

First comes love, then comes babies

THEN COMES MARRIAGE IN A BABY CARRIAGE ... NO WAIT, THAT'S NOT HOW IT GOES After three years together and two babies, Nichole Richie and Joel Madden are reportedly set to make it official.

Richie taped an appearance on The Late Show with David Letterman on Monday that will air Friday, and while there she reportedly announced her engagement to Madden, according to E! News.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Will he? Won't he?

JOIN THE ENGAGEMENT GOSSIP DANCE. APPARENTLY, HE WON'T Word is Leonardo DiCaprio may have popped the question to on-again-off-again girlfriend Bar Refaeli, as the Israeli model flashed a shiny gold ring on her engagement ring finger at a charity dinner at the Berlinale film festival with DiCaprio and his mother, according to the Daily Mail.

The pair had split up last year, reportedly because DiCaprio wasn't ready to settle down, but appeared to have rekindled their romance last month.

But, a source close to DiCaprio, 35, tells usmagazine.com that German reports that he proposed on Valentine's Day are "not true."

METRO WORLD NEWS

She must be so unhappy

BECAUSE NO WOMAN COULD FEEL FULFILLED WITHOUT A BALDING HUSBAND AND GAGGLE OF UNGRATEFUL KIDS Kim Cattrall has no regrets about ending up single and childless at 53, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The actress has been married three times, with her last divorce in 2004 after a six-year union with audio designer Mark Levinson.

Her last relationship, with chef Alan Wyse, came to an end last year and Cattrall blamed her romance woes on her heavy workload. But the star is adamant she's learned to love life as a single lady — even though she's missed out on starting a family.

She tells Britain's Evening Standard newspaper, "I don't regret (not having children). It's fine, it really is."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hating her pin-up body

BOO FRICKIN' HOO Transformers beauty and new Armani lingerie model Megan Fox isn't so fond of her looks, it turns out, complaining to W magazine that she looks too much like a 1940s pin-up model.

"There are some women you could put in underwear and photograph them, and it looks really classy and it doesn't necessarily provoke a pin-up image," she says.

"But with me, it does, immediately. As soon as I'm in underwear, I'm a Vargas girl."

All this self-criticism stems from having no confidence, she insists.

"Because of that, I'm always second-guessing myself."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Chance of hosting looks golden

LIVE FROM NEW YORK ... IT'S SATURDAY NIGHT BARELY ALIVE! Betty White says she's tickled by the support fans have been giving her through an online petition to have the 88-year-old actress host Saturday Night Live that started at Facebook.

"I'm just amazed. I would think by now that they've had such an overdose of Betty White that they'd be throwing rocks instead," White tells E! News.

But will she be hosting the late-night comedy show anytime soon?

"It would depend on scheduling and all that. But who knows? You can't ever say yes or no or never — you just wait to see what happens."

METRO WORLD NEWS

The saying is 'sitting pretty'

NOT 'SITTING PRETTY WASTED' IN THE FRONT ROW Former New York Fashion Week fixture Lindsay Lohan is apparently not welcome around the runways these days, as some industry insiders insist the troubled actress isn't worth the hassle, according to Gatecrasher.

Designer Jill Stuart has reportedly banned Lohan from her show, sources say.

"A lot of designers, and especially Jill's camp, don't think she's worth all the press she'd get their show," the source says.

Stuart's camp denies that Lohan has been banned.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Kickstarts, compasses and kibble

HOLA, GUAPAS — ¿USTEDES QUIERES TOCAR MI PERRO? Ewan McGregor wants to take his dog on a motorbike trip across South America, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The British actor — who has previously taken a biking adventure across the world with fellow enthusiast Charley Boorman for documentary series Long Way Round — has been preparing his pet to go out on the road with him.

"I might go on my own. I've got a dog, Sid," he says.

"I've trained him to ride in my side car and I thought we could do a trip together."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

DIABLO CODY is rethinking her TV viewing choices, **KEVIN SMITH** may give up fighting Southwest about his weight, and **AMANDA BYNES** tries to work through her fears.

@diablocody I feel like I should be watching that show with Mark Harmon and the goth scientist chick.

@ThatKevinSmith In a current CNN.com home page poll, 58% of responders are on @SouthwestAir's side! Guess it's time I shut up about it.

@amandabynes i have to go to the market but i DO NOT want to go ALONE grrrr! i have to grow up and GO alone! i will NOT be KIDNAPPED!

METRO WORLD NEWS

etalk's Lainey Lui dishes out celeb dirt in three's

Three Talk with Lainey Lui

PATRICK CHAN. He is the brightest star in the Canadian men's figure skating program, the youngest to ever capture the national title, and tonight in Vancouver Patrick Chan will perform his free skate in front of a frenzied home audience that will include a large contingent of screaming teens cheering on their idol. The appealing Chan, just 19, has distinguished himself from his competitors by focusing on artistic interpretation and dizzying footwork rather than on the jumps and leaps that preoccupy other less creative skaters. Here are three things you might not know about Patrick Chan:

ONE Most athletes obsessively observe game day rituals. Chan always ties his right boot before his left.

TWO He is a football fan. But he prefers the American game to the Canadian one and his favourite team is the Indianapolis Colts.

THREE Chan is currently featured in the Harry Rosen Spring 2010 ad, giving up the sequins and skates in favour of a smart Hugo Boss suit and dress shoes.

Lainey Lui is a reporter for etalk and runs the popular gossip site, LaineyGossip.com. As part of CTV's Olympic Broadcast Team, Lainey is on the ground in Whistler reporting on entertainment news from the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games. etalk

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Friday Flurries 60% -1°/ -6°

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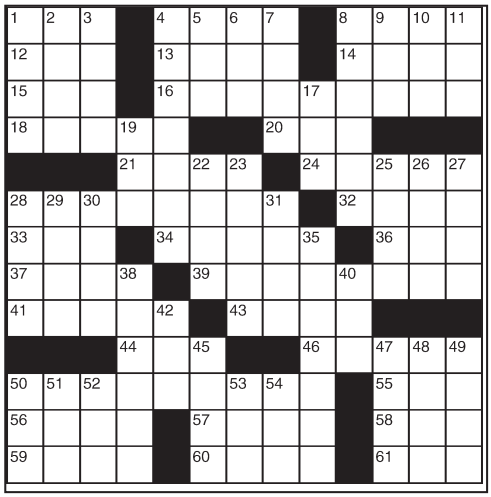
Take Five



ACROSS

1 Burst
4 Old fogy
8 Gets on in years
12 Latin 101 word
13 Always
14 Hobbling
15 Zero
16 It might not indicate true worth
18 Seat at the bar
20 Rowing tool
21 Unpaid amount
24 Eccentric
28 King, queen or jack
32 "— Breckinridge"
33 Wood-shaping tool
34 Cornered
36 Brooch
37 Use a rotary phone
39 Friendster alternative
41 Scatter
43 Medicinal amount
44 Petrol
46 Lure
50 Means of maintaining dignity
55 Verily
56 In due time
57 Infamous lyre player
58 Recipe meas.
59 Peel
60 Remain
61 Weeding tool

DOWN

1 Skillets
2 Leave out
3 Horseback sport
4 Ricochet
5 Eggs
6 Calendar abbr.
7 Sandwich cookie
8 Old-style call to arms
9 Cowboy's sweetie
10 Ostrich's cousin
11 Witness
17 Moving truck
19 Praiseful poem
22 John Candy's role in "Spaceballs"
23 Tire pattern
25 Glitch in print
26 Threesome
27 Pull hard
28 Crazes
29 Mine entrance
30 Despot
31 Erte's art style
35 Ruin
38 Table with a map
40 Spelling contest
42 Existed
45 Without
47 Tale of the gods
48 Mexican money
49 Recording
50 Distant
51 Singer DiFranco
52 Opposed to
53 Animal doc
54 Mound stat

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

			8		3			
	4						7	
9	3	2				4	1	8
		8	3		7	2		
7								5
		4	2		9	8		
6	7	3				1	8	2
	8						5	
			1		6			

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

2	5	6	3	8	1	9	7	4
7	8	4	9	5	2	6	1	3
9	1	3	7	6	4	8	5	2
3	2	8	1	7	9	4	6	5
5	6	1	2	4	8	7	3	9
4	7	9	6	3	5	2	8	1
1	4	5	8	9	6	3	2	7
6	3	2	4	1	7	5	9	8
8	9	7	5	2	3	1	4	6

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Mushroom Green Bean Casserole

INGREDIENTS:

1 lb (500 g) fresh mushrooms, sliced
1 large onion, chopped
1/2 cup (125 mL) butter
1/4 cup (50 mL) all-purpose flour
1 cup (250 mL) half-and-half cream
1 jar process cheese spread
2 tsp (10 mL) soy sauce
1/2 tsp (2 mL) pepper
1/8 tsp (0.5 mL) hot pepper sauce
1 can sliced water chestnuts, drained
2 packages frozen French-style green beans, thawed and well drained
2 tbsp (25 mL) slivered almonds

METHOD:

1. In large skillet, sauté mushrooms and onion in butter. Stir in flour until blended. Gradually stir in cream. Bring to boil; cook, stirring, 2 minutes or until thickened.
2. Reduce heat; add cheese sauce, soy sauce, pepper and hot pepper sauce, stirring until cheese is melted. Remove from heat; stir in water chestnuts.
3. Place beans in ungreased 3-L baking dish. Pour cheese mixture over top. Sprinkle with almonds. Bake, uncovered, at 375°F (190°C) 25-30 minutes or until bubbly.

SERVES 14

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
There is so much in your life you have to be thankful for and today's Venus-Jupiter union will remind you how fortunate you are to have been born an Aries.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You won't have to go looking for excitement today. Wherever you happen to be and whatever you happen to be doing it will find you.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
For some strange reason you are having all sorts of dreadful thoughts about tomorrow. On the contrary, life is good and about to get even better.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Express yourself fully. If you are not flavor of the month already you will be in a matter of days, and you must take advantage of it.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Don't miss out on a great opportunity just because you think it would be wrong to profit and have fun while other people are struggling.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Venus joins forces with luck planet Jupiter today, making it easy for you to ignore criticism and do what feels right to you.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Ultimately, we get out in proportion to what we put in, and with your ruler Venus influenced by Jupiter today there is no doubt you will give your all.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Something with a foreign or exotic flavor to it will capture your imagination today. It may even capture your heart.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Even the most unemotional of Sagittarians will find ways to let partners and loved ones know how they feel over the next 24 hours.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
There is no guarantee that someone feels about you what you feel about them but don't let that stop you from admitting it.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
The Sun may be about to leave your birth sign but that does not mean you should try to cram in as much extra work as you can over the next 24 hours.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
With the Sun moving into Pisces tomorrow, you clearly have much to look forward to. Your special time of year is about to begin.

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This day in history

1600: The philosopher Giordano Bruno is burned alive at Campo de' Fiori in Rome for heresy.
1904: Madama Butterfly receives its premiere at La Scala in Milan.
1925: Harold Ross and Jane Grant found The New Yorker magazine; the debut issue is dated Feb. 21, 1925.
1958: Pope Pius XII declares Saint Clare of Assisi (1193-1253) the patron saint of television.
1972: Sales of the Volkswagen Beetle model exceed those of Ford Model-T.
1979: The Sino-Vietnamese War begins.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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GL Sport model shown

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